TIMES COMPOST

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2001 ★★ Spreading shit around the garden city VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Water restrictons getting you down?

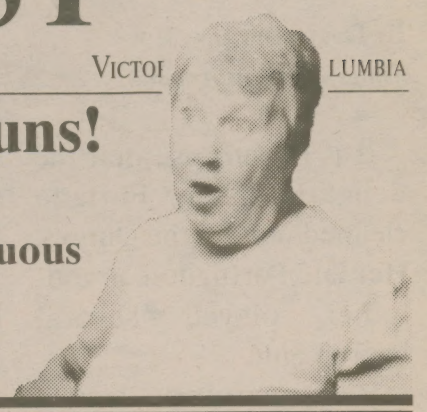
Alice has advice for getting around them.

GARDEN B4

She's got buns!

Grandma Willa releases a voluptuous new recipe.

FOOD B7



Brits go home!

By Wesley Wyndham-Glezos
Times Compost staff

Illegal British settlers have been arriving at this processing centre daily.

Compost photo/rjw

Concern has begun to grow among Victoria residents over the rising tide of British boat people flooding into Vancouver Island.

The wave of immigrants began with the arrival of Captain James Cook in 1778 and has been growing steadily ever since. Though traditionally referred to as 'Boat People,' the British have resorted to using more advanced and sneaky forms of immigrations such as ferries and airplanes.

Early attempts were made to place all the British immigrants in holding camps as they arrived, while their claims to a right to settle were assessed. However, the overwhelming volume of arriving Brits has precluded any systematic documentation of these illegal immigrants, many of whom have been living among us, unidentified, for several generations.

The British immigrants claim to be fleeing oppression and searching for a better life, however, some critics claim that they have been driven out of England for economic, not political, reasons. Local resident Miriam John, a First Nations woman of the Songhees band, expressed the sense of mistrust that many citizens are feeling towards the illegal settlers.

"Look, we have nothing against British people coming here, so long as they do so within the law. It's all these queue jumpers coming here illegally that we're concerned about. Oh sure, they say their fleeing the oppression of King George the whatever, but we all know they're just here because of money. Chances are most of them are going to end up on welfare, and who pays for that? Us, that's who."

John added, "It's not like we're racist or anything. We have British friends. But you have to think of how this is going to effect property values. I mean they're building gardens

Please see BRITS, A2

What do you think?

We here at the *Times-Compost* know that everyone has their own opinion on matters of politics. We also know that not everybody has the time to have their voices heard in such matters. We also know that most people's opinions can be easily summed up in a sentence written by someone else and selected by a checkmark. That is why the *Times-Compost* is giving you a way to have your voice heard on this contentious issue without, you know, ever having to actually get involved in politics. Simply check off that political viewpoint that most closely resembles your own, send it into us, and we'll make sure it gets to the most important political powers in the province, namely our editorial staff.

☐ I believe that all settlers, illegal or otherwise, should be immediately shot on sight.

☐ I believe that only illegal settlers should be shot on sight.

☐ It is possible that maybe settlers shouldn't be shot.

Thank you for taking the time out to participate in the political process. Because remember, filing out forms is what democracy's all about.

Bawk's backyard suffers big ol' bang

By Arman Monitor
Times Compost staff

Media tycoon Comrade Bawk ran screaming from his Beach Drive mansion yesterday after a Strategic Air Command (SAC) pilot pressed the wrong button and dropped a doozie on the noozie.

The sidewinder missle fell from an altitude of 3,000 feet onto the twenty-room, five-storey home Bawk shares with his cheeky columnist wife Barbaric Amule.

The sheer force of the plunk caused a crater the size of a football field in Bawk's 12-acre beachfront property. It took out three heated swimmming pools, a tennis court and a media mogul playland, the Bawkster's own personal clubhouse.

Please see BOMB, A2

City gives nod to 47-storey condo tower in Beacon Hill Park

By Con Kreet
Times Compost staff

At their meeting last Thursday night, councillors voted unanimously to approve a proposal from local developer Gree D. Jirk for a 47-storey condominium tower in the heart of Beacon Hill Park.

"This sends a clear message to the development community that Victoria is open for business!" Jirk beemed as he exited council chambers. "You can't stop the tide of progress. It's people like me who keep the economy afloat. I think every Victorian can applaud this decision."

But the decision didn't come without some resistance from locals. A doven anti-development naysayers from a group called Citizens for a Liveable Victoria attended the council meeting to protest the concrete giant. They

Please see CONDO, A2

Whoah Nelly is Whoah Good!

By Dyrek Berkar
Times Compost Arts staff

It is no surprise that the delightful Nelly Furtado cleaned up at the Juno's. Her late Portuguese grandfather played several instruments.

Her great-uncle was a famed marching band score composer and today remains somewhat of a legend. Music is certainly in this Victoria Musician's DNA. It was with no small pleasure and anticipation that I took up her CD, and played it on my stereo.

Immediately I was overcome by her fine ear for detail. In the opening track, "Hey Man," she conveys with ease that she has a feel for the sweep of the music as a whole. Especially moving was the extra depth of sound that her bassist, Mike Elizondo, provided in the outer moments. Even in the more violent moments, Furtado proved to be an excellent soloist – lively. These quick movements had an undeniable spring in their step. Furtado exemplifies a style and assurance well in advance of her tender 22 years.

The second track, "...on the radio", the now famous adagio, continued on the CD's delightful roll. Furtado was amusingly contemplative, and the slow movement was rich and vibrant. Around the two-minute mark, a triangle solo was played by Daniel Stone with his usual consummate artistry. In its third time around, Furtado sang the chorus with surprising increased fervour.

Track five, "I'm Like a Bird", now widely regarded as Furtado's first real masterpiece, featured

some superlative playing and some very slow tempos. The melody which opened the slow movement had a typically Schubertian lyricism and simply cried out for the wonderful set of variations which followed. I cannot imagine a more committed performance. Nelly oozed with a beautiful singing tone and a fine sense of phrasing. Delightful.

It helps of course, that she is amongst a group of this continent's finest musicians. This is artistry of the highest level. The piano provided a haunting and spellbinding background in a reading which triumphantly demonstrated that Camara Kambon is a force to be reckoned with. Despite an opening adagio of an almost Germanic orchestral texture, Kambon displayed a typically French sensitivity in this sparkling keyboard writing. I particularly enjoyed the section in which the piano provides a kind of perpetuum mobile of arpeggios and scales, while the accompanying instruments interject their comments in spiky syncopation.

With consummate ease and musical maturity, fabulous bassist Mike Elizondo let the music speak for itself. The bass's yearning opening notes spoke of fields of grass billowing over the plains of the Netherlands. Yet, Elizondo is not averse to spicing it up, subsequently reaching considerable heights of Ry-Cooderish virtuosity.

Listening to this CD was the emotional highlight of my weekend. All in all the CD, *Whoah Nelly!*, is a powerful performance. *Whoah Nelly!* is work which will doubtless repay a second hearing; it also inspired, in this listener at least, a desire for that hearing. My living room (wherein I keep my stereo) is now a joy to behold, as inspiration is definitely in the air, relentlessly injected via Furtado's simple and unaffected, but nonetheless affecting singing. Charming, beautifully sung and played, this fine program is now repeated at infinitum on every speaker in my house.

P.S. The tender ninth track is a wonderful interlude of repose.

Bomb: "Oops! We dropped a nuke."

• From page 1

"It's an outrage!," he cried, running out the door wearing only his terry robe and an ascot. "I'll kill that bloody Bush. I'll kill him," he was heard yelling at the top of his lungs by longtime neighbour Dexter Bothwell the Fifth.

"Bawk's a tough ol' bugger. He'll make it," said Bothwell. "I'll invite him over for sherry. We'll call Bush ourselves and fax the lawyers' papers. He'll make a wee killing! Once he cools off, he'll see it's really good news."

"Yes, yes. It's fantastic," he said, rubbing his chin as his spectacles fogged up with excitement.

Looking for speed, stealth and global range, Bush just delivered a fisty military speech to Congress only a day earlier.

"On land, our heavy forces will be lighter, our light forces will be more lethal," he said. "In the air, we will be able to strike across the world with pinpoint accuracy, using both aircraft and unmanned systems. On the oceans, we will connect information and weapons in new ways, maximizing our ability to project power over land."

Naturally, both the armed services and weapons industry officials were ecstatic.

"Bigger booty all 'round!" they chimed in unison while chugging shots of Wild Turkey in the Yip Yap Lounge of The Pentagon.

Meanwhile, back in the Bawk House, Amule was in an outrage. "Shitty damn-damn!" she cried from the second floor lounge window where only moments before she getting a colon cleanse. "Shitty shitty damn damn."

Condo: Anti-development naysayers lose out

• From page 1

were unavailable for comment.

"I think those tree-huggers who crashed the meeting need to get with the program," Jirk said. "People want to live in this city, and I'm here to make sure they have somewhere to live."

Council voted to amend the Beacon Hill Land Use Plan to allow for unrestrained commercial development in the park. Unsightly cedar and hemlock trees that currently litter the park grounds will be logged and provided free of charge for Jirk to use as building material.

But councillors didn't totally dismiss the concerns of those who attended the meeting. In bowing to the anti-development faction, Jirk agreed to paint his 47-storey behemoth green.

"It's a win-win situation," he said.

Brits: Illegal settlers living among us

• From page 1

everywhere."

The signs of the British invasion are becoming increasingly apparent.

Window displays signs are written exclusively in English. Shops are now importing foreign foods such as Yorkshire pudding and spotted dicks. Some are afraid that this influx of British culture will have a lasting effect on Victoria.

Shops are now importing foreign foods such as Yorkshire pudding and spotted dicks.

The British immigrants simply claim that they are looking for a place they can call home. "We aren't looking for any sort of special treatment," said Hugh Jackson, a spokesperson for the burgeoning British community.

"We're just looking for the same thing everyone's looking for. A place we can steal from the First Nations' Peoples, start a life, build a family and rape and pillage the earth. Is that too much to ask?"

The increasing concern over this wave of illegal immigration has forced the provincial government to take action. The recently established Ministry of British Affairs will seek to weed out those British citizens who arrived here illegally, and return them to their home country.

However, some public advocacy groups are expressing concern over such human rights violations against the Brits. Returning to Britain could subject them to bitter reprisals from their governments and a horrible life of high prices, bad teeth and Margaret Thatcher. And even if they aren't returned to their home country, they are often treated like second-class citizens, forced to live in ghettos like Rockland or Oak Bay.

The government has also asked for help from the general population in helping route out some of the undocumented illegals. The Ministry of British Affairs has recommended close scrutiny of anyone who seems to be displaying British tendencies, cautioning that "some of your closest friends could be closet Brits."

In general, the British community has reacted with surprise at the negative reception to their arrival. British people have been the target of campaigns that seek to eradicate their way of life from a place that many have come to call home. In response, prominent members of the Irish community have commented "Ha! See how you like it you pommy bastards!"

A POLITAL FIGURE PICKS UP A BOUNCING BUNNY AT UVLC:
THIS IS AH ELEPHANT.
BEAMSIDE
VICTORIA TIMES COMPOST - DIST. BY LOKO PRESS INC. WWW.MARTLET.ORG

Twinkies stolen

Panic grips city in wake of crippling crime wave

BY SGT. DICK GLEZOS
Guest staff

> The next thing I know, I turn around and the Twinkies were gone. My god, I could have been killed.
>
> *Jeff Gordon, 7-11 employee*

In another example of the crippling crime wave that has gripped Victoria ever since the inception of the *Times Compost,* a case of Hostess Brand Twinkie snack cakes were stolen from a 7-11 convenience store at the corner of Douglas and Johnson.

The vicious and newsworthy crime took place at roughly 2 a.m., March 28. Though little information has become available and no suspect descriptions have been released, the *Times* takes it as a given that the suspect was dark-skinned, young, and appeared to be of lower class.

There are as yet no witnesses to this ghastly and disturbing crime. "It happened so quick I hardly knew what happened," said counter clerk Jeff Gordon in an exclusive interview with the *Times Compost.*

"I was only away from the counter for a few minutes, to go to the magazine aisle so I could be sure that all the *Maxim* covers were completely visible to any children passing by. The next thing I know, I turn around and the Twinkies were gone. My god, I could have been killed."

At this point, Gordon broke down sobbing and was unable to continue the interview.

News of this potential crime of the century has hit the city hard, inspiring fear and trepidation amongst a crime-ravaged populous. With the faithful support of the *Times Compost,* a lobbying campaign has been launched to double the budget of the Victoria Police Department.

"Though neither I nor any of my friends have ever actually been the victim of a crime, I feel greatly threatened by this terrible crime wave that I keep reading about," said Betty Friedman, a 67-year-old resident of Uplands. "It seems so awful that these hoodlums are allowed to roam the streets like this. I hope we have another referendum soon so I can vote again for increased police funding."

In response to the massive public interest that has developed since the *Times Compost* broke the story, Chief-Const. Lok M. Upp has promised a quick and brutal response.

"For too long have we Victorians lived in fear of these horrible crimes," Upp said in a press conference earlier this morning. "The time has come for swift and decisive action. Over the coming days and weeks Victoria will see the implementation of an increased security program, starting off with curfews for anyone under 25 and random search and seizure of anyone looks like they might be considering committing a crime. Eventually this program will evolve into complete zero tolerance of anyone found outside of their sectors."

When asked what he meant by "sectors"– the police chief looked down at his notes, and then asked the assembled reporters to ignore that comment, claiming it was part of a separate project the department was working on.

Upp's statement was greeted with enthusiasm by the general populace, and received overwhelming approval in an informal poll conducted in the *Times Compost* lunchroom.

In other news, the United States declared nuclear war against Cuba earlier today.

Requiem for a garden-city dream

BY JOOPY POOTERSOOP
Times Compost columnist

After watching the electric fanfare of last night's Oscars, I cried into my popcorn. Oh, okay, so I sobbed myself into a blinding sheet of carwash phlegm.

I did it for the kids across America.

It's the kids, the wee scapegoats for the sins of our country: America, Canada, B.C. (I don't want to transfer this onto another landscape. Oh, no. Let's stay close. Let's huddle reader, you and I. The misery pressed onto the sky.)

It's called social myopia. And we're gulty of it – GUILTY! – here in our very own Victoria.

As each chi-chi, Armani-clad Hollywood debutante took the stage and bade their Oscar thanks, I thought of the kids outside the theatre, the homeless ones, the ones with ripped shirts and knuckle spikes.

Call me a bleeding heart, neo-Liberal who writes pastey columns with no polemic: oh, do.

But I come boxy. I come mean. I ain't messing around with my words. La-di-da. No sirreeeeeee.

I really, truly, one-hundred per cent feel this: it's so easy to court the American Dream. It's so easy to forget the kids, *les miserables* lining the Boulevard of Broken Dreams. But we do it every day here in the cultural badlands.

No support for addictions, the homeless, the down and out. I watch myself and my overpaid colleagues skip to work every day after a Waikiki workout, walking past the panhandlers without as much as a glance. Can you stomach it? I know, I'm guilty too. It pains me.

Sometimes I have change, yes, sometimes I do. Sometimes I even carry a wad of bills on my way to the tanning salon. And I flurry past, nervous, slightly paranoid even.

Sometimes though, when I flex a bicep and remind myself of the fire in my gut, I stop. I have purpose; I have intent. I buy a kid a coffee and we talk. "Hey you," I say. "How's it going anyway? How are things in your world? Let me in a little, huh? I'm not a journalist. I'm a columnist, a softer touch."

I look into their sad, dark eyes, and scan their tattered clothes. I just think of my own kids and my uterus quivers and quakes. Quivers and shakes. It's like an ocean hiccup, really.

We need more funding from these buffoons running our province. Oh yes we do. We should all visualize our own progeny, mine in their GAP joggers, yours in their Osh-Kosh overalls, and remember our very first lessons on sharing.

Lend a hand to the kids. Strike a fist at the cronies. Throw this paper into the blue box and sit down with your loved ones to an episode of *Friends.* Bring the television outside. Set it up on the front lawn and call the neighbours over. Invite the street kids. Invite your soul back.

It's the small stuff we do in a day that counts.

Falling behind in the flower count?
Worried about the water restrictions?

Read tomorrows feature on clandestine watering methods and be the envy of all your law-abiding brown-lawned neighbours.

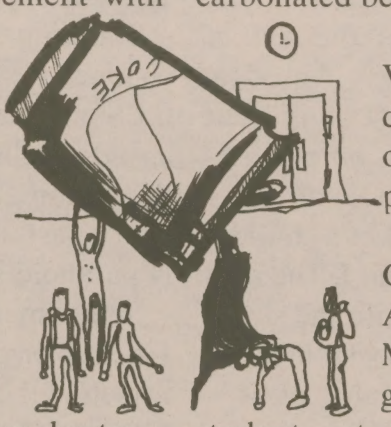
School kids beaming after Coke announcement

Local gardeners breathe sigh of relief

By Phil O. Shight
Times Compost staff

Everyday will soon be a Coke day in Greater Victoria schools.

Hoping to help ease the burden on the city's reservoir, Coca Cola Inc. has signed an agreement with School District 61 to replace every water fountain in the district with a free Coke tap.



"We want to say to the people of Victoria that we heard about your water shortage, and we're here to be a part of the solution," said Coke spokesperson Cav E. Tee.

With the Sooke Reservoir at a precarious 60 per cent of its full capacity, sweeping water-use restrictions have been enacted in the Capital Region effective April 1. But thanks to good corporate citizens like Coke, Victorians may be able to water their flowers after all.

"We're here to help," Tee said proudly. "Coca Cola realizes the challenges facing communities. If we can help in any way, that's what we'll do."

While the ink is barely dry on the new agreement, students will be slurping sweet Coke to their hearts content in the near future. School district staff plan to severe the water pipes in every school in the next week to 10 days. Existing fountains will then be supplied by giant 240-gallon vats of the fizzy beverage.

Coke will meet School District 61's refreshment needs at no cost, while the company retains exclusive access to marketing, promotions and product sales within the district.

The first day of classes after the summer and winter holidays will be renamed "Coke Day" and pupils will be required to don red t-shirts emblazoned with the familiar swirly emblem.

A full range of Coke merchandise will be made available in every school, and seven minutes of each physical education class must be devoted to a discussion of the merits of carbonated beverages.

What do Victoria students think of the new plan?

"I love Coke!" said Amanda Mitchell, a grade two student at Sir James Douglas elementary. "I've been getting it by the bottle since I was born."

Classmate Matthew Cunningham summed up the benefit of the new arrangement.

"It helps me learn," he said.

With good news like this, Victoria's water woes may end up being a blessing in disguise, and a bolster to the local economy.

Local dentists are applauding the decision of the Capital Region, and expect their revenues to increase three fold in the next three years.

Bleeding Gums Murphy, head of the Victoria Dentistry Association, said dentists and orthodontists will be able to afford more luxury items and move into bigger houses in the near future.

"This is absolutely great news," he said. "I've already put an order in for three new dentist chairs and doubling my office in size."

Murphy said the focus on good dental hygiene is over rated, and has forced many dentists out of the upper income bracket.

"I couldn't afford to take my annual vacation in Luxembourg this year because I needed to have repairs done on my Lexus. I mean, this is getting out of control," Murphy said.

Victorian proposes dynamite to deal with panhandling problem

By Ian Hugh Mane
Times Compost staff

Suggesting Victoria's anti-panhandling legislation is too soft on street people, a local businessman has a plan to rid the city of beggars once and for all.

After consulting with the Victoria Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Victoria, Bill Powderkeg, president of local demolition company Acme Explosives, suggested that the city employ dynamite in its war against the poor.

"I know it doesn't sound pleasant, but if we're serious about presenting visitors with the city they want to see, we may need to consider such alternatives," Powderkeg told councillors at a recent committee-of-the-whole meeting.

"We can continue to fine these folks or ask them to move along, but those are just Band-Aid solutions. If we really want to deal with the problem of panhandlers, we need to take explosive action."

Powderkeg, who has worked in the demolition business for nearly thirty years, estimates Victoria's homeless problem could be eliminated in a matter of hours with a half a tonne of TNT. The total cost? Roughly $4000.

"I admit it's a pretty hefty initial expenditure, but we'll realize these savings many times over in the long-term," he said.

Anti-poverty advocates walked out of the meeting in disgust after hearing the proposal but Powderkeg isn't fazed.

"Some people are always afraid to experiment with the unknown," he said. "You have to be willing to embrace new ideas, to embrace change."

Council referred Powderkeg's proposal to the municipal works department for recommendations.

Dosanjh racks up $80 in parking tickets

By Less Lying
Times Compost columnist

With a provincial election looming, Parking Gate is haunting the ruling party in the latest of a long line of scandals.

The province's NDP government, a virtual scandal sponge, is teetering on the edge of collapse after revelations that Premier Ujjal Dosanjh owes U-Park $80 in overdue parking fines.

"This is just one more example of the NDP government's incompetence," Liberal leader and premier-in-waiting Gordon Campbell told the *Compost's* editorial board.

"Can a leader with this kind of record provide British Columbians with good governance? I don't think voters will have any trouble making up their minds."

According to documents received from U-Park CEO and liberal supporter Biz Nes, Premier Dosanjh has received four tickets for illegally parking his 1977 Honda Civic in the lot behind the Parliament Buildings.

While the Premier purchased a ticket on each occasion, U-Park officials found that the allotted time had expired. On Dec. 14, Jan. 7, Mar. 20 and Aug. 18, 1999, a $20 ticket was placed beneath the Premier's windshield wipers, but according to U-Park, he's failed to pay.

"If Premier Dosanjh can't keep his own finances in order, how can we expect him to manage the books of this province?" Campbell postulated. "Perhaps a criminal investigation is in order."

U-Park's CEO hasn't ruled that option out.

"Does the Premier think he's above the law?" Nes said. "U-Park will be giving serious consideration to the initiation of civil proceedings."

Parking Gate is just the latest in a barrage of NDP scandals.

The Carrier Lumber scandal made headlines several months ago after the NDP was sued for trying to transfer a private logging license to a First Nations community. And voters aren't soon to forget the Fast Ferries fiasco, where the NDP tried to revive BC's struggling shipbuilding industry by retraining 300 local workers in the use of aluminium technology.

"When will this madness end?" Campbell questioned. "It's time for government to get out of the way and let business run this province."

MARCH 29, 2001 [53.26]

THE REAL NEWS

Martlet

Felicita's head lice rumours overblown

Dreadlocked employee claims to have been unfairly stereotyped by co-workers

photo by Richard Warrington

What's your feedback on SUB food services?

by Gillian Jerome

Since late February, two members of Felicita's kitchen staff have been sent home with head lice, causing panic among the rest of the staff at the SUB pub.

But according to Student Union Builiding (SUB) operations manager Vivek Sharma, what began as a public health concern has digressed into a fairly petty case of stereotyping people with dreadlocks, refering to the way the first employee who contacted the parasite wears her hair.

However, since the initial case came to light, a second member of the pub's kitchen staff told food services manager Brad Mielke last week that she had contacted head lice. Sharma says that management has no reason to believe the two cases are related as they happened four weeks apart.

At least one Felicita's employee says he isn't so certain. On the condition that he wouldn't be identified, a staff member approached *the Martlet* last week with concerns of a possible lice outbreak.

"That's what's happening in the good ol' unionized kitchen," the employee said, asking again that his name and position be kept confidential. "It's just disgusting."

Recent complaints by SUB management and the Steelworkers over Peter Verin's hygiene are hypocritical, he says. "They should talk. They shut schools down for this... A lot of crap goes on in this building that nobody knows about and yet they're all freaking out over Peter."

Numerous calls to public health officials suggest that anxiety over two cases of head lice is unsubstantiated.

"Nobody gets food poisoning over head lice," said B.C. public health inspector Bill Johnson.

Johnson has inspected Felicita's kitchen at least 12 times in the last six years and he says it has a solid reputation for its sanitation. "To my knowledge they haven't had any outbreaks of food-borne disease."

Besides, Johnson said, lice don't jump out and contaminate food. Nevertheless, management says that their objective was to be as open as possible from the very start.

The first case of lice was reported in a log book open to all staff members, says Sharma. The second case of lice reported last week was also logged so that employees could check themselves on a regular basis. The names of the two affected employees are being withheld to protect their privacy.

"If there's a source of lice in the SUB building, it has nothing to do with food service," says food services manager Brad Mielke.

"We posted information on head lice but we've tried not to create a situation of panic among the staff."

The first person to contact the parasite commonly called "lice" says other staff members refer to her as "the dirty hippie" because of her hair.

She believes she's been targeted by a group of employees who talk about her maliciously but have yet to confront her about it. "Maybe it's because of my hair. Maybe it's because I've been so insistent about recycling."

She first found out about the lice at the end of February at which point she reported it to Mielke.

Mielke gave her 10 hours off, or two shifts, so that she could go home and wash her hair with the medicated shampoo Lindane. "I washed my hair. I washed my clothes. I scoured my house."

She says ostracizing people with dreadlocks is a form of stereotyping with no factual basis. "Lice actually have an aversion to dreads because they live in warm places close to the scalp. That's why it's called head lice."

Mielke didn't ask her for a doctor's note because she had assured him the problem was dealt with. A day later Lynne Swetnam, president of the Steelworkers' Occupational Health and Safety Committee, took the employee aside while Mielke was away. At the union's request, Swetnam and Sharma sent her home for two days and requested she return with a doctor's note.

"Three or four days later she brought the note back and everything was fine," says Sharma.

Under union sick-leave guidelines, the employee was reimbursed after missing four shifts "She's not typhoid Mary," said Mielke. "There's not a lot of cause for concern. I can assure you that both employees were properly treated before they returned to work."

Management complied with both the Worker's Compensation Board (WCB) requirements and the Public Health Act by sending both employees home for treatment. They also cleaned the staff room.

Mielke said that each kitchen staff member is given their own hat. Food preparation employees, like those who work behind the counter at the International Grill and the Health Food Bar, are asked to wear hairnets, a rule which isn't enforced.

Although the cases of lice don't constitute a health hazard, for some students the issue ignites longstanding ire over how food is handled by SUB workers.

"Every time I go up there, some one has hair hanging down over their face. They rarely wash their hands before touching food. If I order vegetarian, I have to ask them to wipe the counter before making my food," says fourth-year English student Lisa Goulay.

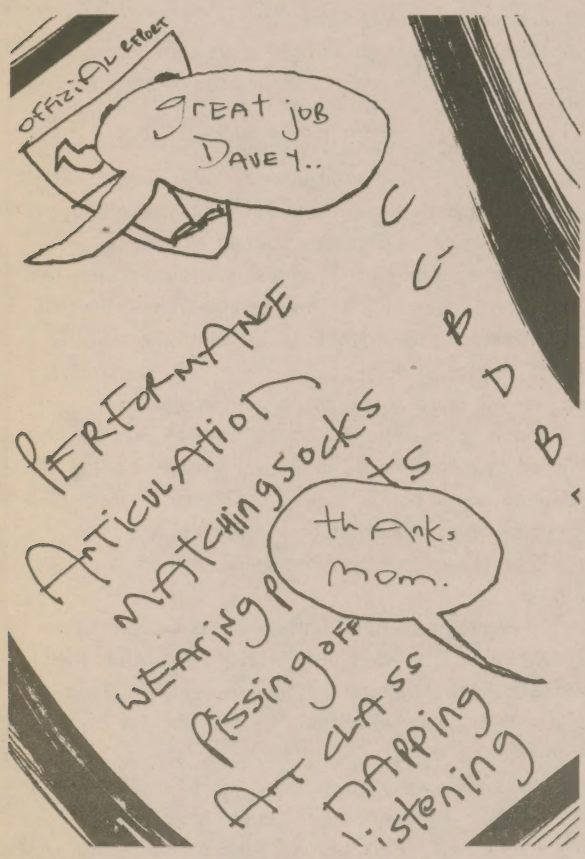
Provincial regulations governing all establishments with a license to sell food require at least one staff member with Food Safe certification to be on duty at all times.

The Facts of Lice

Lice are tiny insects which live on the human scalp. They feed on human blood but do not transmit disease. They don't jump from head to head, but they can be contacted from close contact such as a hug or sharing the same sleeping bed.

The most common symptom of head lice is constant itching of the scalp. Because the bugs are too tiny to spot, it's best to check for the tan-coloured eggs called "nits."

Lice have a 30-day life cycle including a seven-day gestation period. They lay up to 100 eggs between days 10 and 12. The best remedy is two shampoo treatments, seven to 10 days apart.



So far he's managed not to piss anybody off

by Ben Isitt

A year ago UVic president Dr. David Turpin, in his final days as vice-principal of academics at Queen's University in Kingston, presented to the Board of Trustees a proposal for a 10 per cent increase in tuition fees.

In making the proposal to the Queen's trustees – the equivalent of UVic's board of governors – Turpin said that no one enjoyed recommending tuition increases, but the university's mission statement committed the institution to provide exceptional programs.

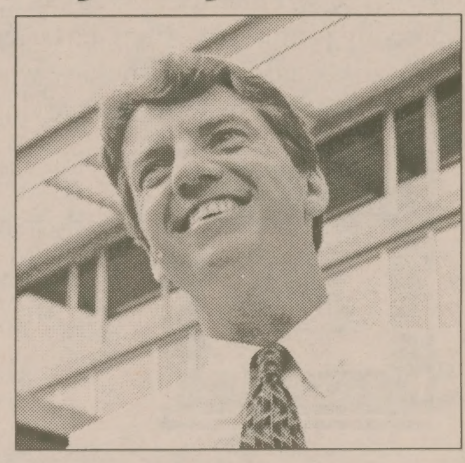
He was determined to maintain a high level of quality and, in the absence of government funding, students were going to have to pay for it.

UVic, Spring 2000. Faculty, students and administrators at UVic find themselves in a situation eerily similar to that surrounding Turpin's May 1, 1995 appointment. An unpopular NDP government is said to be on the verge of extinction by a Liberal party extolling the virtues of smaller government and free-market economics.

A month after Turpin's promotion at Queen's, Conservative leader Mike Harris won a resounding victory over NDP Premier Bob Rae, and in November announced that provincial operating grants to Ontario's colleges and universities would be cut by $280 million. Turpin was charged with the task of overseeing a university-wide strategy of budgetary cuts, tuition restructuring, and fundraising from the private sector.

Is this what the future holds for UVic?

Last September, a few weeks after becoming the university's president and vice-chancellor, Turpin told the Saanich News the only thing preventing a reduction



of tuition fees at UVic was provincial government funding.

When Premier Ujjal Dosanjh announced a five per cent fee reduction in February, Turpin described it as "a valid, sound policy."

continued on page 6

Clever bust or sophmoric prank?

After talk of lawsuits, Allnutt calls Crockford's trump on the *Times Colonist* website child's play

by Gillian Jerome

After months of frustration over not being able to access any *Times Colonist* articles online, *Monday Magazine* editor Ross Crockford decided to outwit the nitwits at our local daily.

Crockford siphoned $70 off his meagre editor's salary and bought the domain name www.timescolonist.com last June, igniting a legal battle with lawyers representing the CanWest daily.

> I am sure the original sophomoric idea to appropriate this name was someone else's.
>
> *Allan Allnutt, Times Colonist*

Crockford's ire was raised after he discovered that the *TC* is the only major newspaper in Canada without a website. Folks across Canada were using the ever-so-modest www.monday.com to get news about Victoria.

Five years ago, *TC* management pulled their website offline after the union filed a grievance because the site was first built by Mount Douglas high school students.

Publisher Allan Allnutt denies that it had anything to do with the union. "It was briefly put up and taken down," he said. "It had more to do with it not being artful or robust."

But CWA local 2000 · nion president Cathy Small, who represent some 150 newsroom employees at the *TC*, confirms a grievance was indeed filed. "We basically felt that this was our work."

The site only became more entangled in a web of legal complications.

While the *TC* had registered the internet domain name www.timescolonist.com, Crockford bought the simpler name, sans hyphen. Weeks later *TC* lawyer Michael R. Scherr from Pearlman and Lindholm, wrote to Crockford accusing him of "unfair competition" as well as trying to pass *Monday* off as the *TC*.

In a recent telephone interview, Allnutt called Crockford's purchase "that prank that happened way back."

Dated June 30, 2000, the letter calls for Crockford to stop using the name and give the Network Solutions registration to the *Times Colonist*. "They tried to pass me off as a conspirator against the *TC*," says Crockford from his Broughton Street office.

Two weeks later, Crockford fired off an indignant letter rebuking Scherr for the accusations. "No reasonable person would ever confuse *Monday* with a witless dinosaur like the *TC*.

"Furthermore," Crockford writes, "I find it laughable that I would be accused of 'unfair competition' by your client – a ravenous corporate monopoly that has already gobbled up two-thirds of Victoria's entire advertising market, and yet terrorizes local arts societies by threatening to pull its sponsorships if those societies place ads in *Monday*."

> No reasonable person would ever confuse Monday with a witless dinosaur like the TC.
>
> *Ross Crockford, Monday Magazine*

To settle the dispute once and for all, Crockford said he'd transfer rights to the name in return for $70 US and a short note thanking him for his generosity along with a guarantee that it be published on the editorial page. "The *Times Colonist* would like to thank *Monday Magazine* for assigning the Internet domain timescolonist.com to us," Crockford's proposal reads. "We promise that we will use it to publish thoughtful, elegant journalism for readers in Victoria and around the world."

After publisher Allan Allnutt refused Crockford's offer, the *Monday* editor sent another letter to Scherr. "I certainly do not wish to interfere with the *TC*'s hard-won fight to print whatever it wants – even if that includes bogus 'polls' calling for the deportation of Chinese migrants, or advertorials extolling the virtues of the latest sport-utility vehicles."

"However," writes Crockford, "some small form of acknowledgment from your client (besides a cold financial instrument like a cheque) would be nice. How about a greeting card?"

The thank-you card arrived by mail on Jan. 8 2001, signed by Allnutt himself. "I am sure the original sophomoric idea to appropriate this name was someone else's," he wrote in legible scrawl on a greeting card depicting a cascading waterfall. The card, says Crockford, was published and printed by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Rebuilt by Sage Internet Solutions, the website is now re-built and ready to go. When will we see the TC website grace our cyber-crossed eyes? "As soon as we can get the corporate folk in Winnipeg to take over the hosting," says Allnutt, referring to his boss' head office. "That could take anywhere from two weeks to three months."

Meanwhile, *the Martlet* has urged Crockford to use his new domain name purchase, ilovetimescolonist.com, to start a province-wide referendum asking Allan Allnutt to change his name to Butt.

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So far he's Grade A

continued from page 5

In a recent interview, Turpin even spoke favourably of the Irish education model, where tuition fees were abolished in 1996.

"I think that what's happened in Ireland is remarkable. They've taken the view that [education] should be free and funded the universities appropriately."

The participation rate in post-secondary education among 18 to 24 year olds in Ireland now exceeds 60 per cent, while in B.C. it's less than 30 per cent. He described the country's economic turnaround in the last 20 years as "absolutely remarkable," with Ireland now ranking among the top exporters of software in the world. High tech firms, he said, are flocking there because of the highly-educated population.

Turpin said the university presidents of B.C. have a vision of the province leading Canada in the quality and accessibility of education.

It's possible that UVic's new president was merely making the best of an impossible situation during his tenure at Queen's. Administrating a public institution in the absence of public funds is an unenviable task. Maybe now that he's returned to his native Vancouver Island, where support for public education is strong, he can finally adhere to his true ideals.

Born in Duncan, Turpin grew up in Esquimalt and Vancouver. He moved back to Victoria last summer with his wife Laurene and children Chantal and Joshua, the victor of a vigorous eight-month hiring process to succeed former president David Strong.

He enjoys running, "spicy food" and reads travel books, popular science, social studies and contemporary fiction when he's away from campus. Currently he is halfway through Naomi Klein's *No Logo*, which he says provides "a window on some of the social issues that are fermenting right now."

And miraculously, after two semesters at the helm of UVic, overseeing an institution with 17,500 students and 3,880 employees, Turpin has yet to piss anyone off.

"It seems to me that he's taken quite a comprehensive approach to orienting himself to issues at UVic," said Jamie Matten, current director of services for the UVSS and soon-to-be chairperson of the society. "It's going to be in the following year that we'll see him putting his principles into practice."

Matten received a hand-written note of congratulations from the president after her election victory. He simply signed it "Dave."

But despite his visionary talk and apparent commitment to low fees and public funding, there are some indications that UVic's administration is preparing for an anticipated reduction in provincial operating grants, which totalled $108 million out of UVic's $171 million budget last year.

For over a year, the university has been quietly proceeding with a plan to raise roughly $250 million from the private sector to meet new spending priorities. A similar Campaign for Queen's was launched last fall.

Re-zoning signs on the northern half of campus are evidence of the university's plan to allow private high-tech companies to erect a building and micro-chip plant on campus. The Discovery Parks proposal has raised concerns about corporate intrusion at UVic and the allocation of campus space.

But Turpin defends the Discovery Parks plan.

"Publicly funded institutions have a responsibility to ensure that the benefits of publicly funded research are returned to the society. This is one way in which companies that spin off out of public investment can be incubated and brought to fruition so that they can actually create jobs."

He says the general policy of the university is that the inventor owns the intellectual property, be it a faculty member or graduate student. Turpin conceded, however, that corporations or foundations can negotiate with university researchers to conduct propriety research.

Such an arrangement currently exists with Vancouver-based Ballard Systems, with UVic receiving money toward the development of hydrogen fuel-cell technology. At the end of the day, Ballard will hold a private patent and profit accordingly.

Turpin said it is up to individual researchers to determine whether such arrangements are good for their departments. And he points out that the Discovery Parks plan will mean many jobs for UVic co-op students and new facilities for faculty, at no cost to the university.

UVSS director of academics Kari Worton said there are some benefits to the Discovery Parks plan, but she has concerns around the corporatization of UVic.

"I don't think David Turpin and the university have the same concerns around corporate involvement that I do," Worton said. She takes the fundraising campaign as evidence that the university administration has already committed itself to the pursuit of private sources of funding.

"If they put the effort they're putting into fundraising into pressuring the government to fund education adequately, we may be able to have the Irish system of funding rather than have to scramble to our alumni to buy adequate lab equipment," Worton said.

She thinks the next year will reveal where Dr. Turpin really stands.

"The university is probably going to be in a budget cutback year, because there's probably going to be a government changeover and we're going to be dealing with very different social policy. That's a chance for an institution and institutional administration to show what their principles are."

Turpin is hesitant to discuss the upcoming provincial election, which must be called by June 30.

"I don't know what's going to happen. Both parties have indicated that they believe in supporting public education, and I'm really pleased to hear that. I think that it's absolutely fundamental that governments in this province really start supporting public education."

Matten is inclined to take the president at his word.

"Hopefully in the years to come he will be a strong ally to students. What we're hoping is, 'Hey, maybe he really is going to stand up for these things.'"

photo by Richard Warrington

Double the ding on city parking tickets

Parking downtown is about to get costly with a $15 fine in July. Can you say 'U-Pass'?

by Michael Cox

Plug the meter or pay double the fine.

At a March 15 committee of the whole, Victoria council voted to double parking ticket fines, increase parking enforcement to seven days a week, and promote tenacious ticket givers as ambassadors of the city.

Mike McCliggott, the city's manager of financial services, said parking tickets will go from $7.50 to $15 as of July 1.

McCliggott said the price hike is one-and-a-half times what it costs to park in a parkade, which is why the fine increase was recommended.

"Our parking rates are too low and not generating turn-over," he told council. "Right now $7.50 is not a penalty." A parking ticket in Saanich is $15 and $25 in Vancouver.

All-day parking permits for persons with a disability got hit even harder in the recommendations.

Currently, a disabled parking pass costs $20 a year, but the city wants to jack up the price to $60 a month, eventually raising the price over the next four years until it costs $100 a month.

All other physical-disability parking permits will be eliminated and cars displaying a valid handicap exemption permit, issued by the Victoria Resource Centre for Independent Living, will have to pay at the meter. "We're not here to subsidize parking, we're here to establish parking regulations," he told council.

McCliggott said persons with a disability will be given a one-hour grace period, but as of July 1 "they have to plug the meter like everyone else." Victor Van den Boomen, a city staff member who worked on the recommendations, said the price hike for disabled parking permits is comparable to a monthly bus pass, which costs $50 a month.

"We want to encourage people to use alternative forms of transportation," he said, adding that the yearly increase will give persons with a disability an "incentive" to take the bus.

While it seems there is a commissionaire for every three parking meters, Van den Boomen said there are only 16, half of whom patrol the downtown core.

> Our parking rates are too low and not generating turn-over.
>
> *Mike McCliggott, City of Victoria*

As part of the recommendations to council, McCliggott said commissionaires will be given training on how to be "less aggressive" ambassadors of the city. "We really want to work with our commissionaires on enforcement style," he added.

One way of painting a new, more forgiving face on commissionaires is pay and display meters, McCliggott said. The ticket dispensing meters, which cost about $10,000 each, were installed on the newly revamped Broad Street and have been successful, Van den Boomen said, adding that a five-minute grace period would be allowed with a valid ticket.

Also included in the report to council is the recommendation that parking tickets be issued on Sunday, but that met with mixed views from council.

Councilor Helen Hughes said it is more reasonable to waive the $1 parkade fee currently charged on Sundays as an alternative for people going downtown.

Mayor Alan Lowe echoed Hughes opinion, adding that businesses downtown already have a hard time drawing in customers.

"We have a hard enough time bringing people downtown and if they have a bad experience they might not want to come back."

Van den Boomen defends the recommendation because it would get more people into parkades and free up on-street parking.

"The problem we're having on Sunday is that staff in businesses downtown are taking the metered spots first," he said. "A lot of people don't come downtown to shop on Sunday because there's no on-street parking."

Co-op Housing pilot project launched in Victoria

by Glenn Wigmore

Victoria students may soon be able to buy houses for collective living if a local non-profit can get a co-op off the ground.

A fixture at many other Canadian universities, co-operative housing complexes would allow UVic students a safe, secure and affordable solution for off-campus accommodation.

Sol Kinnis, a Victoria resident who works for the Fernwood group Solid Roots and Autonomous Roots, knows what it's like to live in sub-standard housing owned by private landlords.

"In privately owned buildings, students don't have much control over what goes on," says Kinnis. "The money they pay goes into someone else's future."

The purpose of organizations like Solid Roots is to help a group of students maintain a house. If the students are unable to come up with a mortgage payment, Solid Roots would like to try and find a way to keep the house under the co-operative system.

"One of our solutions would be to sell the house to a land trust," says Kinnis. "They would preserve the house for the students and they would never be able to sell it to a private owner."

The pilot program, launched in conjunction with the University of Victoria Students' Society, would involve the purchase of a 10 to 12 person house and allow the students to take out a mortgage on the building. But proponents of the plan say a grant from the university of at least $50, 000 would be required for the initial down payment.

"There's a need for a new type of housing for university students," said UVic prof Dr. Ian McPherson, a member of the British Columbia Institute for Co-operative Studies. McPherson spoke at an alternative housing forum in the SUB's Michelle Pujol Room March 23. "But getting it requires determination and effort and it won't be easy."

Eric Guetschoff, development coordinator with the North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO), believes in the rich tradition and growth patterns that co-operatives go through.

"Co-op development happens in waves," said Guetschoff. "It just happens that we're in the middle of one right now."

Getting its start sometime in the late 19th century, the co-operative program began with a textbook store. As the 20th century rolled around, housing co-ops and grocery stores were established, many of which are still going.

The basic premise for co-operative housing is sharing. First, an organization like NASCO would buy a house and lease it back to a group of students. Then, each of the students would buy a share in the house and own a part of it.

Each student would make a contribution to mortgage payments, bills and general living costs. The rules and regulations of the house would be solely up to the inhabitants. A share in the house would cost about the same as a security deposit.

However, the idea doesn't appeal to everyone. "Never again," says former UVic student Ted Neffler. "The co-op I lived in became a petty den of mud-slinging idealists. Like Marxism, or Communism, it's a great concept on paper."

Jill Herd, associate director of Apartment and Community Living at the University of California, knows that relationships with organizations don't happen overnight. "If you were going to have a relationship with someone else, you wouldn't say, 'Hey let's be together and share everything'," says Herd.

Stop by the UVSS resource centre in the SUB for information.

UVic computing services battles cyber spam

by Kevin Groves

Are you tired of receiving Internet spam? Well so is UVic Computing Services.

In the near future they will be implementing anti-spam measures to deal with the high volume of 'spam' – that all-to-familiar junk mail offering free sex and tips on becoming a millionaire. Initially, only uvic.ca accounts will be affected.

All email destined for a uvic.ca account from an offending site will be returned to sender with the explanation that their email provider permits the distribution of spam, and, therefore, that no message will be accepted until the site corrects the problem.

Currently, over 120,000 computing sites allow their email servers to forward email to anyone. Computing Services' decided to take action after user complaints, and higher costs due to increased staff-hours to remove spam. Still, there are some drawbacks to the new anti-spam measures.

Any email from a legitimate person that is routed through an offending site will be unable to reach your uvic.ca account, and it will be up to the sender to notify their email provider of the problem in order to fix it.

Rootsfest gets the boot from local news

by Carrie Ann Taylor

The *Times Colonist* clipped its roots in the city's biggest music festival due to the politics of concentrated ownership.

According to Rootsfest producer Jamie Kelley, the *Times Colonist* refused to sponsor the festival in cooperation with the new local tv station CIVI-TV because they are a competitor to CHEK-TV. The media giant CanWest Global Communications Corp. owns both the TC and CHEK -TV. (Last August CanWest acquired 3.2 billion in Hollinger Inc. shares, including 13 major dailies, 126 community newspapers and 50 per cent of *the National Post*.)

Rootsfest, a registered Canadian charitable organization and non-profit society, relies on media sponsorship for its success.

"We're disappointed," says Kelley, adding that last year the *TC* gave the festival $30,000 toward a total revenue of $220,000 in free advertising and publicity.

When Kelley told the *TC* that he had already established a sponsorship with CIVI, the *Times Colonist* opted out of the deal.

"Part of our mandate is to work with our sister companies," says *TC* promotions director Kathy Baan. "It's a fact of business."

"I felt really bad when Jamie called but we have to look at who we're partnered with."

Rootsfest promoters even went so far as to phone David Asper, the son of CanWest owner Izzy Asper. The multi-billionaire family is known as a big supporter of Winnipeg Folk Fest. But Asper deferred the decision to Baan who, Kelley says, chose company loyalty over local arts.

"The decision was made by me not head office," confirms Baan.

Ironically, festival organizers had approached CHEK-TV some time before, but according to Kelley, "they were unable to be of assistance."

CIVI-TV handed festival organizers a $20,000 sponsorship. With connections to *Bravo*, *Much More Music* and eighty broadcast stations globally, CIVI-TV is a "wonderful corporate match," says Kelley.

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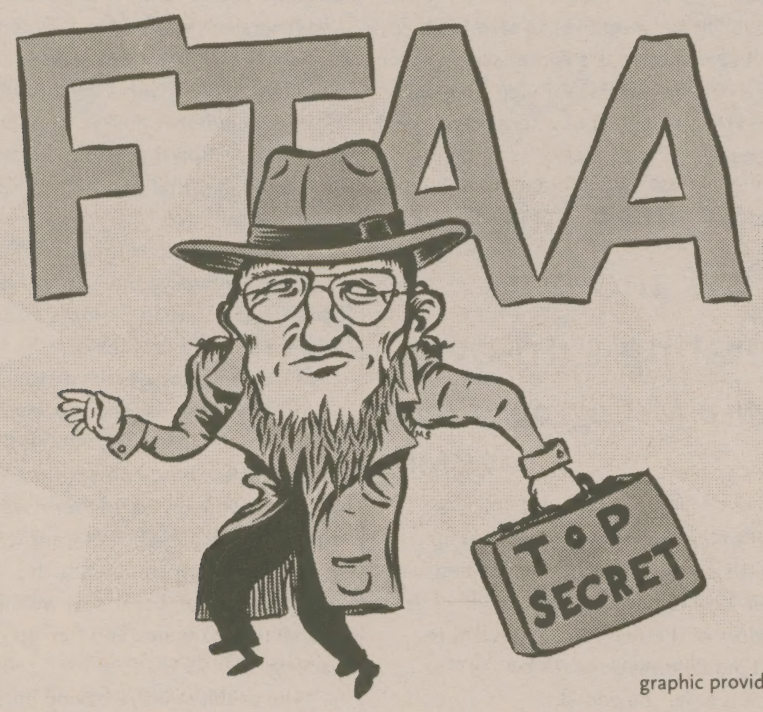
FTAA watchdogs gather at UVic

Speakers and activists from across North America oppose FTAA at teach-in



graphic provided by CUP

by Jason Gondziola

The student society hosted an FTAA teach-in last week, following a nation-wide trend intended to educate Canadians about global trade. Speakers from varied disciplines and locations shared opinions and strategies during the all-day event organized by the Mobilization for Global Justice (MGJ).

"For me personally, the FTAA is just incredibly undemocratic. It pushes the corporate agenda forward to a new level," said Daisy Pitkin of the Campaign for Labor Rights, based out of Washington, DC. "It's just another step in this incredibly undemocratic system that doesn't allow people to make decisions about things that affect their daily lives."

Marc Lee of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives agreed, adding that the FTAA increases uncertainty for people and removes local legal powers in the process.

> The FTAA is about empowering corporations, empowering traders and investors, while restricting the abilities of citizens and their governments to act in the public interest.
>
> *Marc Lee, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives*

The Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) aims to expand the reach of the existing North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to encompass all of the Americas, with the exception of Cuba. Panelists, organizers, and attendees expressed concern over the effects this agreement will have on working conditions, the environment and indigenous land rights.

"The FTAA is about empowering corporations, empowering traders and investors, while restricting the abilities of citizens and their governments to act in the public interest," he said.

Of chief concern to everyone are the "barriers to trade," which will be outlined in the FTAA. Essentially, a barrier to trade is anything that will hurt the profitability of the interested corporation. These barriers can range from local legislation, indigenous land claims or workers rights.

"Free trade agreements in general, and specifically the FTAA, will just further undermine the rights of workers all over the world. These are basic rights that were decided democratically and that are outlined by the International Labour Organization," Pitkin said. "Those rights are counted as trade barriers under the FTAA and NAFTA."

Under NAFTA, organizations have sued local governments for lost profits resulting from local legislation. In Mexico, Metalclad, a waste disposal company, sued a local community for enacting legislation to stop the company from dumping waste in the area.

Metalclad sued the government under NAFTA, citing a barrier to trade, and won. The case has been appealed and is currently being heard by the B.C. Supreme Court.

There was widespread agreement about opposing the FTAA, however opinions about how to handle the FTAA varied from speaker to speaker.

"If I was to suggest an alternative to the FTAA, I think I would suggest to yell, scream, to cry, to grab a gun, whatever it takes," said Keystone of the West Coast Warrior Society. "Whatever action that you take is beneficial to the movement as a whole. As long as you're taking action in one way or another, then you are a contributor to the greater cause."

The idea of revolution was tossed around by more than one speaker.

"What is militant? Organized, persistent, mass disrespect," said Paul Kellogg of the *Socialist Worker*. Others espoused a more watchful and careful approach.

"We've got to use documents that are in place to shame government," said Joan Russow, former national leader of the Green Party. "What we need is an international court of compliance. There has to be a place that we can raise these issues."

"If governments make a commitment to eliminate weapons of mass destruction, we've got to be the ones who interpret compliance and not the lawyers who are promoting international trade," she said, adding that the focus should be on prohibiting violation of environmental and human rights, as opposed to prohibiting trade barriers.

Some speakers advocated the grass-roots approach to handling government.

"The options are to support community autonomy, to build autonomous communities on the principles of democracy, consensus decision-making and resistance," said Pitkin.

Forest Futures B.C.'s Will Horter agreed.

"We have to take back control of our government and that's going to require people working together in ways they've never done before," he said.

While opinions on protest tactics differed, all present favoured a strong lobbying effort against national and international trade leaders. Several groups presented action plans for subversion beginning with community development.

"I think we need to build on things like farmers markets, community shared agriculture," said Lee. "Cooperatives, credit unions, community forestry or tenure in local areas, local currencies and electronic bartering systems. These are the types of structures we want to look in terms of formulating that sort of tool kit for local people to create spaces that are not dominated by international finance or transnational corporations."

Putting the FTAA in perspective

The liberalization of our economies has been happening now for nearly a quarter of a century through privatization, deregulation, and the elimination of tariffs. The upcoming Free Trade of the Americas (FTAA) agreement joins a legacy of global hand shakes including the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the WTO (World Trade Organization), the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank; and by sub-regional trade agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Common Market of the Southern Cone (MERCOSUR), the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM), the Central American Common Market (CACM) and the Andean Pact.

"Liberalization" and "free trade" means liberal treatment and freedom only for investors and transnational corporations.

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New US loan provider could influence public policy

by Patti Edgar

TORONTO (CUP) – A US company that owns nearly half of Canada's new student loan provider has spent more than $7 million lobbying American politicians and is suing the US department of education.

This concerns student groups on both sides of the border who worry the company's business practices will be replicated in Canada.

"They are heavily involved in setting public policy on loans here," said Corye Barbour, the legislative director for the US Student Association. "And I don't think they would change that in Canada. They have a lot of money riding on this."

Canadian Federation of Students chairperson Michael Conlon said Canadians saw private companies influence student loan policies when the country's largest banks took over the loan program from the federal government in 1995.

Now that Edulinx Canada Inc. has replaced the banks, he said students don't want to see that happen again.

On March 1, Edulinx started a three-year contract to manage student loans for publicly funded post-secondary institutions. While CIBC owns 51 per cent of Edulinx, the rest is owned by USA Education Inc., an American holding company that owns Sallie Mae, one of the largest private providers of federally-guaranteed student loans in the US.

Sallie Mae spent $7.2 million on lobbying politicians between 1997 and 1999, according to the US-based Center for Responsive Politics. In 1998, the company was one of the top 100 spenders on lobbying in the US.

And Sallie Mae has some of Washington's most influential lobbyists working either for the organization or on contract, including three former members of Congress, said Ivan Frishberg, the US Public Interest Research Group's student rights advocate.

What do these lobbyists do? Martha Holler, a spokesperson for Sallie Mae and USA Education Inc., wouldn't say who lobbies for the company nor would she say what they do. She said in order to provide students with the "best services and loan products available," it is common for the student loan industry to keep up "constant dialogue" with the federal government, which administers the US student loan program.

However, Barbour and Frishberg said that while Sallie Mae sometimes fights the same causes as students, protecting their profit is the company's main concern. They point to examples of federal government decisions that benefited the company, such as a bill that gave student loan companies an extra $1.7 billion in profits, despite concerns of universities like Harvard and former president Bill Clinton.

And Sallie Mae isn't afraid to take the US government to court when lobbying doesn't work.

Last fall, Sallie Mae joined other private student loan lenders in a lawsuit against the US department of education, which has leant directly to students since 1994 as part of a public loan system.

By offering students a cheaper originator fee and reducing interest rates for people who paid their loans on time, the department said it could save student borrowers $590 billion over five years.

However, companies like Sallie Mae say the department's public loan system shouldn't be allowed to undercut the private system by offering deals beyond the limits set by Congress.

Edulinx's spokesperson Wally Hill is quick to separate Sallie Mae from his company.

"They are very different markets and very different systems, quite frankly," he said. "The system in the US is more privately oriented, so you have stronger participation by all the players in the policy debate than you have here."

Hill said Canadian banks participated in policy discussion more than his company ever will because they owned the loans, unlike Edulinx, which just administers them.

"We are able to make a contribution to policy formation as an organization that services the program, but our approach is to provide the best service possible," he said.

Despite assurances, Conlon said the Canadian Federation of Students is worried Edulinx could take a more aggressive stance one day, like lobbying governments to expand private universities beyond the borders of Alberta and Ontario because the tuition, and therefore the loan, is higher.

"Edulinx is treading very carefully," he said. "They know our organization and others will be watching closely."

A Tale of Two Companies

- On March 1, Edulinx Canada Inc. replaced the banks as the loan provider for public post-secondary institutions in Canada. BDP Canada took over loans for private institutions. The banks had replaced the federal government in 1995.

- Edulinx Canada is 49 per cent owned by USA Education Inc., the private holding company that owns Sallie Mae, a provider of federally-guaranteed student loans in the US. CIBC owns the other 51 per cent.

- Sallie Mae spent $7.2 million on US government lobbying between 1997 and 1999. The company is currently suing the US department of education for making changes to the country's public loan system.

B.C. university takes College of Teachers to court

by Tristan Winch

VANCOUVER (CUP) – The University of British Columbia is taking the province's regulatory body for teachers to court in a complicated legal dispute over the university's right to govern itself.

At issue is whether the B.C. College of Teachers, the professional association which certifies teachers, has the right to stop UBC's faculty of education from making changes to its teacher education program.

In a B.C. Supreme Court case to be heard early next month, Justice Frank Cole will be asked to weigh the Teaching Profession Act, the provincial legislation which grants power to the College of Teachers, against the University Act, which sets out all British Columbian universities' mandates.

UBC argues that the association's decision to block the changes infringes on the university's ability to manage its own affairs.

"The recommendations... intrude upon the management, administration and control of university matters, which are the sole prerogative of the university pursuant to the University Act," wrote Barry McBride, UBC's vice-president, academic and provost in response to the association's original report on the program.

But the association's registrar Doug Smart disagrees.

"The statute we operate under, the Teaching Profession Act, gives the college the statutory authority to approve teacher education programs that are going to lead to a teaching certificate," he said. "In our view, it's up to the profession to determine whether a program meets that requirement."

In denying the program changes, the association cited concerns with the student teacher-to-faculty supervisor ratio in the new program. While UBC's program currently has a ratio of 12-to-1, the change would have it increase to 18-to-1. The College of Teachers is willing to go only as high as a 16-to-1 ratio.

The college also takes issue with a change in the elementary part of the program that would consolidate a number of courses into two 'core' ones – mathematics and language arts. The association worries that a student could take the elementary teacher program without taking specific subject teaching courses, like social studies or science.

The court hearing will be the latest in a two-year dispute between the two groups.

In May 1999, the association was asked to approve the revised teacher education program. But early last year, the association sent a evaluation team to investigate the proposed changes. In May 2000, the association decided to deny the revised program.

The university requested that the association reconsider the motion, but at its next meeting, the council confirmed the original decision.

Two weeks later, on Sept. 14, the university filed the court challenge. Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria have since sided with UBC and gained intervenor status in the case.

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News in briefs

Toronto Star dumps on Ryerson

The battle between student newspapers and big media giants raged on last week as the *Toronto Star* delivered thousands of free newspapers to the Ryerson University campus.

The university administration upset the student newspaper, the *EyeOpener*, last month when it signed a three-year deal granting the *Toronto Star* free on-campus distribution.

Student papers in Ontario have been campaigning against the Star's Campus Readership Program, which began in September 1999. They say this campaign detracts from their readership and thus lures away advertising revenue.

Jeremy Nelson, president of Canadian University Press, a student newspaper co-operative, said it also limits the power of students to have their voices heard.

The Star says it is only trying to make newspapers more accessible and affordable to students.

Meanwhile, strike uncertainty has students worried.

McMaster University students are asking for an end to the staff strike that is going into it's fourth week as the stressful exam time approaches.

A rally last Thursday, asking mediators to reach an agreement, brought out about 100 students who are concerned about how reduced services and cancelled classes will affect their academic performance.

Negotiations are ongoing, but no details have been released due to a media blackout.

Some students feel the university isn't answering their concerns and they don't know what will happen when exams begin.

The administration has said exams will go ahead, but some teachers who support the strike don't feel they should have to help administer the tests.

The administration responded by saying it will provide alternatives if some professors don't cooperate.

Jailed granny to run against Dosanjh

Well-known environmentalist Betty Krawczyk is running for a seat in Premier Ujjal Dosanjh's Vancouver riding.

The Green Party announced Monday that the 72-year-old great-grandmother will be running under the party's banner in the upcoming election, which has yet to be called.

Krawczyk said she's seeking political office because she's worried about the environmental impact of a Liberal sweep.

Polls show the Liberals in the lead with 63 per cent of the popular vote followed by the NDP with 20 per cent and the Green Party tied with the B.C. Unity Party for seven per cent.

briefs by Carmel Ecker

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EDITORIAL:

A manifesto for media busting

This week we here at *the Martlet* took time out from our weekly attempt to instigate a Communist revolution to spoof the *Times Colonist*.

We did this for many reasons. We did it because many of us have genuine problems with the way in which the *Times* portrays the news. We did it because many of their stories could be easily construed as racist, sexist or homophobic.

We did it because they often seem to spend way more time covering petty street crime than substantive issues that will make a difference in the lives of their readers. We did it because they have a wider readership than us, get paid more than us, and we're petty and jealous people. We did it because it's easier to make up stories than actually research real ones. We did it because we were bored.

The function of parody is essentially a revelatory one. Every cultural product has biases and ideologies inherent in that. No news is ever perfectly transmitted and some distortion always takes place, based on the point of view of those doing the transmitting. However, due to the desensitization which comes with familiarity, we stop being aware of this distortion. We accept the news we are given as disinterested and true. As natural and unquestionable.

By parodying, by exploiting, by blowing these biases out of proportion we can, ideally, make people look at the news in a new and different way. We can make them aware that this distortion does take place and that they should always approach any information with caution. Critical thinking is the watchword of any contemporary media experience. One need always be aware of what's going on beneath the surface, where we tend not to look. Is this giving a little rag like ours to much credit? Probably, but it's always good to aim above your reach.

Now one might argue that we have been too harsh on the *Times Colonist*, that we could just have easily pointed our guns at some other media outlet.

And this is probably true. We would have gladly taken potshots at one of the other local daily newspapers, if it weren't for the fact that there aren't any.

Every year the *Martlet* puts aside one issue to be the spoof issue, where we poke fun at another local newspaper. Theoretically, we should aim at a different target every year so that we can critique everyone equally. Last year we were so hard up for material we had to spoof ourselves. The simple fact is that Victoria is facing a drastic shortage of news outlets. We have one major local newspaper, the *Times Colonist*, and one major television station Check 6, both of which are owned by the same company: Can-West Global. And this is by no means an isolated situation.

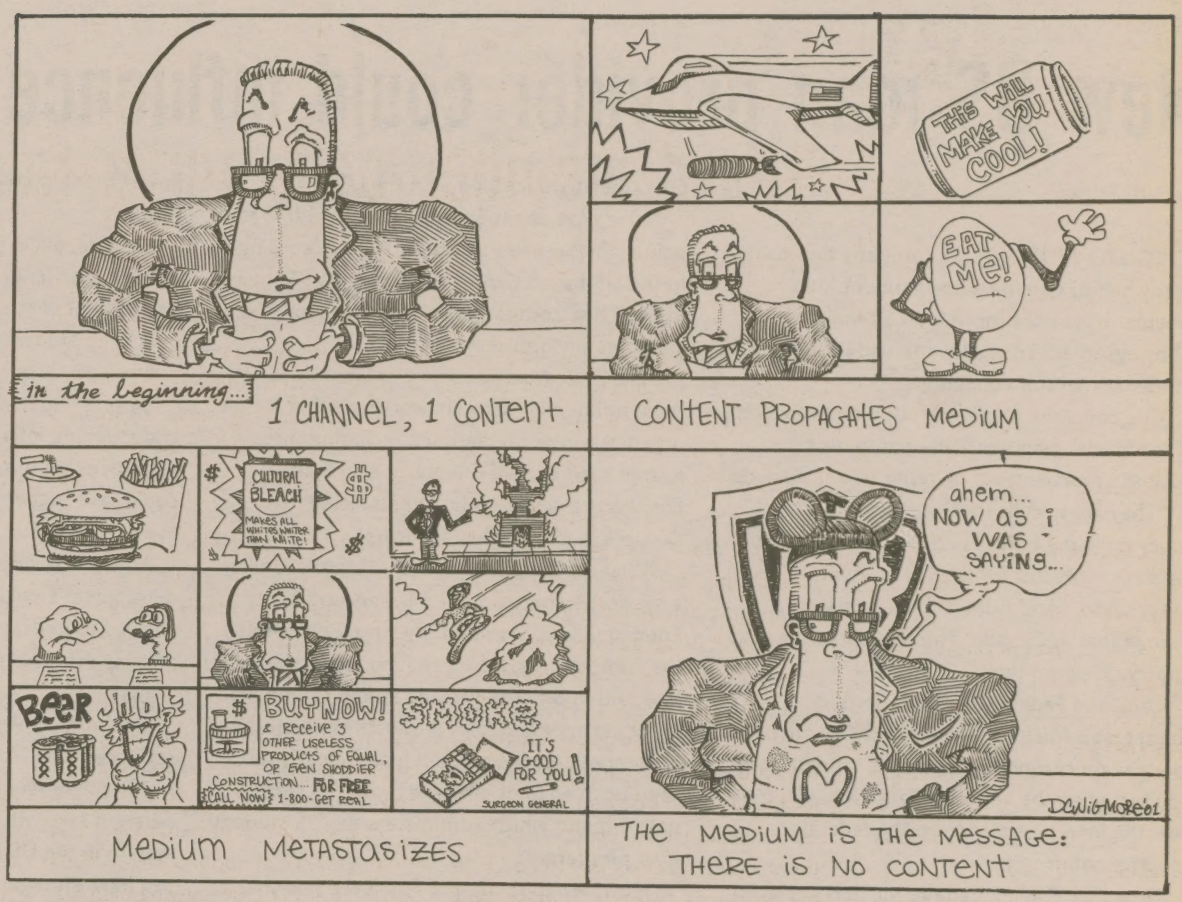
All across North America, and indeed the world, the concentration of the media in fewer and fewer hands is resulting in people having fewer and fewer choices in where we get our news. There was once a time when most major cities had numerous newspapers, all providing different perspectives and viewpoints. Now even the biggest city is lucky to have more than two or three papers. In the case of our own burg, we don't even have that much.

The concentration of the news makes exercises like parody that much more important. With nowhere else to turn for news coverage, we have to make sure that we always treat that coverage with a jaundiced eye.

This is, quite frankly, not the way things should be. Media should exist as a plurality where no one voice gets to speak alone. But for now, constant vigilance is the cost of doing business.

Or you could just get all your news from *the Martlet*. After all, we don't have any biases at all. Seriously. Trust us.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at noon in SUB B011. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff.



LETTERS:

A whole lotta misquotin' goin' on

I feel compelled to write a letter in response to your recent article titled "Peter Still Banned from SUB Despite Support" on page 3 of the March 22, 2001 issue of *the Martlet*. In this article I am misquoted several times and would like the opportunity to clarify my position for your readership.

My contention was that we (as students and union members) must be very careful about taking rash action before we have all the facts.

If harassment is established THEN we are indeed compelled to take immediate action in favour of our workers, in order to provide a safe workplace.

"He harassed me" does not constitute formal evidence.

I am aware of the differential perception of harassment based on gender.

However, this does not justify granting carte blanche to individuals to "define their own harassment." Allowing people to define their own harassment affords the possibility of abusing a legitimate mechanism of complaint to forward personal agendas.

In the absence of formal evidence we must acknowledge that there is the possibility of ambiguity (especially when you have many people in the same union/student body with a long history of interaction with Mr. Verin denying the presence of harassing behaviour).

In the presence of ambiguity we must be wary of implementing punitive measures as this runs the risk of injustice.

Banning Peter from the building for several months given his long history at the University of Victoria, the nature of his lifestyle and the many people who vocally support him, in my opinion, runs this risk.

To implement this "punitive" action against him does three things:

1) Finds him guilty without trial and forces him to prove himself innocent

2) Continues an unsettling trend within the building of banning people before it is fully understood what occurred.

3) Allows the union, through threat of action to set the ideological agenda within the Student Union Building.

The contention was made during the meeting that this was the decision of the Unit President, who was democratically elected and, therefore, necessarily represents the collective interests of the building's workers. In response, it should be noted that the Unit President carries out grievance action at the behest of complainants and so this assertion misses the point. Nonetheless it was implied that, due to this misconception of the Unit President's role, I must be some rogue defender of Mr. Verin.

The Martlet has misquoted me as saying "... the board would be misguided to believe the union speaks for all students... "

Although this is obviously true in the sense that not all students are union members it is also (for the same reason that it is blatantly obvious), not what I said.

What I said was: that to characterize the ideological stance of this particular union as unified in this way is overly simplistic.

In other words, there are a lot of different people who have a lot of different views on issues like this, who work in the union. Moreover, for a variety of reasons, many people who are members of the union have very little factual knowledge about the union, how it works and who our representatives are.

The Martlet has also misquoted me writing: "... I'm not trying to be a conspiracy theorist BUT this clearly creates a situation of compromise."

What I actually said was further to the idea that there are many complex and subtle issues concealed in a conflict like this. I explained that for instance one could point to the fact that the Unit President and the Grievance Chair (who happens to be the chief complainant to catalyze this conflict) both occupy positions that are "structurally subordinate," to positions in management. As it is the explicit job of the Unit President to represent labour against management, this could be perceived as having the POTENTIAL for misrepresentation. (And it is structural issues like this which are among the manifold complexities we must investigate before taking action against someone).

I went on to say that I am not trying to be a conspiracy theorist – period. No "but." I was careful to stipulate that this was an EXAMPLE and that I work closely with all the members of management and the Unit President and have respect for their intentions. This was not printed.

The net result of this kind of this kind of sensationalistic, oversimplified journalism is a misrepresentation of the facts which further complicates, rather than clarifies, the delicate issues at hand.

In addition, by not being very careful about what you write and how you present your facts you have the unintended effect of disinclining people (like myself) from helping individuals like Peter Verin which is, I hope, contrary to your mandate as a school newspaper.

Mike Doyle

Defence of "Walkout for Wilderness"

As a member of SAVE Coalition, the group that organized the "Walkout for Wilderness" on March 16, I would like to respond to a letter written by Sarah Burgess in last week's *Martlet*.

Ms. Burgess criticized the walkout saying that it targeted the wrong institution, namely the university. University administration "... aren't responsible for the forestry practices of the government of B.C." she wrote. It's true: they're not responsible for the actions of the government to any greater degree than the rest of the voting public. However, the university does support environmentally degrading practices through its sizable investments in companies such as Shell Oil, Imperial Oil, Talisman Oil, TD Bank, and Slocan Forest Products. UVic also buys almost all of its paper from Weyerhauser, the company which is presently logging the pristine old-growth of the Upper Walbran Valley.

One of the main goals of the "Walkout for Wilderness" was to draw attention to these facts and to push the university to adopt more ethical practices. Government environmental policy will change when the will of the majority is that it should change. As such, it is very important that we examine and question the everyday attitudes and practices of society. Asking the government to change legislation is important, but being conscious in our choices and our lifestyle is at least as important, if not more so. We have to realize that focusing all our energy on the legislative body will not be effective unless we change our attitudes at a deeper level. Using

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The martlet is an incorporated B.C. society and a full member of Canadian University Press (CUP). We strive to *act* as an agent of constructive social change and we will not print racist, sexist, homophobic or otherwise oppressive copy.

Letters: *the martlet* has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be 200 words maximum. **Deadline** for letters is noon on the Friday before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

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STUDENT VOICE:

Board member calls for a fair, open trial for Verin

by Sarah Metzgner

The motion at the March 19 board meeting to allow Peter into the SUB until further notice is defeated due to eight people opposed, four people in favour, and one abstention. I was one of the four in favour. I am currently a director at large for your student society, and have been for the past year. During this year I have tied down this position with full-time school and (what seemed like at times) 1,000 other commitments and activities.

I have an intense appreciation for the hard work and dedication it takes for the UVSS to operate. The executive directors especially run themselves dry every day to optimize the resources available to make life a little better for you, the student body. This student body consists of a fair number of students who always seem to find it necessary to express their anger to the UVSS for misrepresentation or poor decision making or whatever else might get their goat on that particular day. One thing that really bothers me about this is that none of these students had attended more than a few biweekly board meetings, or committee meetings or event planning meetings or anything else.

I guarantee that these people chill out at a Friday afternoon beer garden or relax in the upper lounge comfy seating or use their U-pass. They also are the first to get angry at our campaign messages or tell us we're not doing enough work. We need the voice of the student body: it is the most important thing to a functional democratic organization; but this voice needs to be an active one, and if you don't like the way things are going, you need to be prepared to bust your ass with a working alternative.

We are all unique individuals and we will never agree on every issue, but I believe that when having a strong opinion, one needs to have all the facts at hand and then go ahead and fight it to the death.

That now brings me to my main point. On the motion concerning Peter at the last board meeting, I am in total disagreement with the majority of my fellow board members, and in agreement with only Sarah Webb, Ben Isitt and Brendan Van Dueson (all directors at large). This board meeting was a complete kangaroo court, consisting of a handful of Peter-supporting students in the gallery and a tired, mixed-opinion board.

At the first meeting that Peter was in attendance at about a month ago (right after the university banned him from their buildings) it was decided that Peter would not be banned from the SUB until the mediation occurred. This mediation would deal with harassment issues that arose between Peter and certain SUB staff. This seemed like the perfect compromise. We needed to deal with the issue, but no irrational decision would be made until we observed the actual issue at hand.

However, at the next meeting on March 12, the Steel Workers union approached the board saying they could be held personally responsible for the safety of the union members and be sued if they allowed Peter in the SUB. For some reason, the majority swayed, and the vote decided that Peter not be allowed in the SUB before the mediation. Suddenly Peter was guilty before proven innocent or guilty before proven guilty, whatever the case may be. From here, Peter took it in his hands to call an emergency meeting and question this change in attitude.

Did the board buckle under legal threat? Or do they actually feel justified in banning Peter before legitimate information was allowed to surface from the mediation?

None of the board members in favour of banning Peter said that the legal threat had anything to do with their decision. They felt that if one employee even "felt" harassed, then it was up to us to protect that employee at all costs. At this meeting, I felt that the most important and realistic comment came from Mike Doyle, who brought it to the board's attention that as a Vertigo bouncer he gets yelled at and threatened on a regular basis by people who consume too much whisky and find it in their best interest to raise some shit.

One board member stated in response to this that the above was in Mike's job description as a bouncer so it was not considered harassment. So what does this mean? He's male and 200 pounds so it doesn't count ? One other argument against Peter was that his belongings were unsanitary. A janitor quoted in Gillian Jerome's latest article stated that they had to throw out contaminated recycling from the recycling bins.

As a member of the SUB's environmental responsibility committee I can assure you that this contamination does occur, but it occurs regularly as a result of many environmentally careless Student Union Building occupants. We almost couldn't even place a bin near Vertigo because it got vomited in almost weekly by more brilliant bars stars (my apologies for picking on you night club lovers, I'm sure you're all very nice when sober). And how about the fact that thousands of dollars go missing daily when we put reusable cutlery out for public use, because it all gets stolen. WE'RE NOT PERFECT HERE PEOPLE, SHIT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME!

Our definition of harassment is ambiguous. Our definition of breaking rules is ambiguous. When an issue comes up, especially a harassment issue, it is terribly important to address it thoroughly.

However, due to the ambiguity of the harassment issue itself (i.e. no one really knows what's going on), if we jump the gun before an extensive person-to-person mediation process is carried out, we are being inconsistent and judgmental. If we throw out Peter we should have thrown out countless other people on the same account. But we haven't. Since he has been banned before the mediation, the mediation itself is going to be pure lip service and doesn't serve much of a purpose because the board majority has obviously already made up its mind.

Peter, as everyone else, isn't perfect. Those who are friends with him as I am know that he doesn't claim to be perfect. He is a member of this community just as you and I are. He is a learner and a teacher. He wants to communicate face to face, not through silent whispers, or leaked gossip or a huge stack of unclear grievance complaints, half of which he doesn't even know anything about. We, as members of a so-called institution of higher learning, need to work towards a more open-minded, complete way of thinking, with no discrimination or prejudices. I hope that more students who feel strongly about this issue are now a bit more informed, and I challenge you to use this knowledge and act on your feelings.

Let those in authority know what you want and what you are going to do to get it. Our most challenging expedition will be to rise above the level of thinking that got us all into this mess, and use our intellect to achieve what we truly feel is right.

LETTERS CONTINUED:

our university's investments to support companies which are environmentally progressive is one of the ways we can create positive change in society as whole.

Ms. Burgess decided not to participate in the walkout, and felt that walkout spokespeople were "unable to respect this decision." As an organizing committee, we were very aware that many people who would otherwise support the cause would not want to leave their classes. For this reason, we scheduled the rally in front of the SUB for 11:30, so that students who didn't want to participate in the 11 a.m. walkout could still join in the rally. I'm sorry that Ms. Burgess didn't feel her decision to stay in class was accepted. We were not trying to be disrespectful to anyone on campus, either those supporting us or those against.

Ms. Burgess writes in her letter that if you are not respectful, "... people will not respect you; and you won't be heard... " Her comments here allude to a prominent topic of debate within the environmental movement: How far is too far? It is true that many of the more "radical" actions undertaken by environmentalists tend to marginalize the group involved in the eyes of the public. This can often lead to the message being taken less seriously, as Ms. Burgess points out. However, there is also a danger on the other side of the issue if we allow ourselves to act only in ways which are socially acceptable. If we restrict ourselves in this fashion, our actions remain governed by the majority, and we may lose opportunities to promote more fundamental change. Both approaches, the moderate one as advocated by Ms. Burgess, and the "radical" one, have their strengths and weaknesses. Personally, I think we should recognize that every part of the spectrum can play a role. Developing an environmentally sustainable means of existence for our society is going to take input and effort from all sides.

Tim Holland

Re: The Q's latest sexist contest

This is a copy of an email I sent to the Q regarding their latest contests:

I'm frustrated with The Q right now. I like your station for the most part. The music is good, the djs are good (except for that one guy in the morning who's always shooting his mouth off without thinking first – Ed Bain maybe?). Here's the thing: the sexism is annoying me. The 'bust bus'? The 'bra strap snap'? C'mon. Now, as if these aren't annoying enough (mind you basically harmless) it's the stupid ads that go with them that suggest that women are nothing but a bunch of Martha Stewart wannabes who fight their husbands to watch HGTV and WTN. Puhleeeeeze. We fight these stereotypes constantly. To have the media come out and just cram it down our throats without even a touch of subtlety was just sickening.

Now, I gotta say, this promo is decidedly less sexist than your "Brides of Burden" contest. I am appalled that in this day and age, you're still rewarding people for fitting conventional stereotypes! How on earth are women supposed to fight eating disorders and negative self images about their bodies when the local radio station says something to the effect of "If your man to be can't lift you, you can't be in our contest?" I weigh about the same as my love (190 lbs. or so). I'm not particularly ashamed of this, though I'd like to be more "average." I "do not" like being excluded from contests because of it. I cannot believe the insensitivity that was displayed with that contest.

Smarten up Q.

Shannon West

Mediation process will sort Peter out

This letter is to acknowledge that in the last edition of *the Martlet*, a story entitled "Peter Still Banned From SUB Despite Support" was written concerning the temporary suspension of Peter Verin from the Student Union Building. Some of the parties quoted regret the article's focus on the personal and negative characterization of Peter and other people, and are disappointed with the slant taken. These issues and statements were taken out of context and misrepresented. We believe that the best way to resolve these issues is through mediation, which will focus on the best interests of all concerned. This process is already underway and operating in good faith.

Jaime Matten, spokesperson for the mediation group

more letters page 19

Telling stories:

by bren simmers

I first came across Christine Welsh as a student in the Women Studies department here at UVic. As the lights dimmed and the film *Keepers of the Fire* began, I got the sense that this film was quite different than the "studio" movies we had been watching previously. Here was a filmmaker who insisted on placing her own search for answers in her film, a filmmaker who stepped in front of the camera and showed her relationship with the people and the stories.

All of Christine Welsh's films have a recognizable quality to them. Careful attention is paid to detail and transition. People in her films are given the space to talk; they are not spliced together in neat frames and soundbites.

She locates people in their surrounding environment. Always, her films unravel, provoke and create space.

Martlet: *Can you talk about film as a medium for telling stories. What is your process of making a film?*

Christine Welsh: I wish I knew what the process of making a film was. A lot of it is instinct, a lot of it is experience, you follow your nose. It comes from a long time of doing it, of learning how to tell stories that will resonate with people. Partly I think it's finding the universals in stories.

Even though the stories I make are about Indigenous people, particularly Indigenous women, I think what I've learned is a way to tell them that resonates with everyone. Those are the things I look for in the stories. They are particular, honouring and giving voice to that experience, but I'm always looking for how that experience connects in a more universal sense.

That's why I'm a slow cooker because I think stories find themselves. If you spend enough time with a story, it tells you how it wants to be told. You try different things and you see what works and you see what doesn't, but it takes time. If you come to a story and you analyze it and put it in it's box intellectually – there's so much you don't see then, when you're actually in it. It blinds you to all of the aspects of a story that come out of nowhere and continually surprise you, right up until the end of making the film.

If you start out with a rigid idea of where you're going with it, you're not open to any of that. Making a film is about trusting, having faith, listening. It's being with it and being in it for a period of time.

Martlet: *I'm wondering about how you negotiate telling other people's stories and how much input they have in what they want to say and how they're positioned. In your latest film,* The Story of the Coast Salish Knitters, *the women are filmed in their homes, on their porches. Is part of telling someone's story presenting them in a more wholistic space as opposed to an isolated one?*

Christine Welsh: Absolutely. It's interesting that you say that. I think one of the things that makes my films what they are is that I spend a lot of time on development before going into production. I often spend up to a year developing a film before I actually go out and film it.

I'm continually trying to raise these chunks of money for development and funders will say, "That's a lot of money for development," but you don't get that intimacy that resonance on the screen unless you put in the time and you go and spend time with people where they live, in their lives, and you talk to them about how they want their story to be represented on the screen.

How would they be comfortable telling their story, what parts of their story do they think are important, not what you think is important, what they think is important.

It's amazing what people will come up with if you say to them "How would you like your story told?" People know how to do that. They know exactly how they want their stories told...

Some people will just take it and run with it like in *Keepers of the Fire*. When I asked that question of the Haida women who helped stop logging on Lyell Island, they knew right away.

They said "First of all there is a big group of us, we don't want just a couple of spokespeople telling the story [of the blockade]. We want as many women as who were involved in that action who wish to be a part of the film to be able to be part of the film. We want to go back to Lyell island, because we never get to go there. It's too far away and too expensive. We want you to take us there. We want this to be an opportunity for us to go there. We want all these people to come and we're going to need people to cook for us and people to make fires for us and we want to bring our kids."

So we planned this whole thing! It was like a military camp – boats and people and food. They planned their route. They said "This is how we're going to go. We're going to go here on the first night and stop here at this longhouse on this island and spend the night there and this is where we're going to have the circle and we want it filmed in a circle."

So if you actually put that question to people, they will come up with all kinds of ideas that you didn't think about and things that make the experience of filming meaningful. It's not just the end product that has meaning. The process of participating itself has meaning and that's important.

Martlet: *How do you wear the different hats of filmmaking and teaching? How do they come together?*

Christine Welsh: I came into teaching largely because I couldn't make a living making documentary films every two or three years. I don't want to be churning out scripts for tv, so I had to find some other way to make a living that would still allow me to make films and this has done that.

Teaching has taught me a lot about filmmaking. As a filmmaker you make your film; they go out there on tv; you cut them loose and they float away. Other than the initial period after a film goes out and you might go with it to festivals or public screenings, you don't get a chance to see your work with audiences.

You don't get a chance to see how it affects people and teaching has really done that for me. It has made me a better filmmaker because I've had a chance to see how my films affect people on an ongoing basis. I see how they work and how people respond to them. I'm able to have conversations about my films that I would have never had an opportunity to have. I have learned a huge amount from my students about what it is that I do.

Last year I was teaching Indigenous Cinema around the time we were finishing *The Story of the Coast Salish Knitters*, the story of the generations of women who make Cowichan sweaters, and that was neat because I would bring in cuts of the film and show them to the class.

They saw it at the rough cut stage and at the fine cut stage. I got to ask them "So what's working for you here? What's not working for you here? What are you confused about?"

> You don't get that intimacy that resonance on the screen unless you put in the time and you go and spend time with people where they live, in their lives, and you talk to them about how they want their story to be represented on the screen.
>
> *Christine Welsh*

Martlet: *What are some of the most rewarding experiences you've had as a filmmaker? Is there a high point you can remember from each film?*

Christine Welsh: Each film is a life-changing experience. Every one of them has affected me in profound ways. Through filmmaking, I've met my teachers. The people who have been in my films have been my teachers and they have taught me so much. They've shared their lives with me, and in the process of making the films they've taught me so much about myself.

a conversation with filmmaker Christine Welsh

photo provided

Writer/director Christine Welsh and Tsartlip knitter May Sam in *The Story of the Coast Salish Knitters.*

Teachers come along at different times in your life when you need them. I can look at each film and I can see at least one person that was put in my path at that time in my life for a reason, to teach me something I needed to know then. It may not have had anything to do with the film, it had to do with me and what I needed to learn and some of those things have been painful things, hard things...

But a high point, I had one the other night. On Tuesday night we showed the *Kuper Island* residential film. The film has been out now for four years. We started working on it nine years ago, so it's been around for a while. Yet we showed it again for diversity week here at UVic; I was once again stuck by how film has that power to speak to people, to make people hear, to make people see in a way that nothing else can.

I feel as a filmmaker that I'm in the business of changing hearts and minds about who we are and what our experience has been. I watch that happen every time I watch that film with an audience and I did the other night. Delmar Johnnie, the main character in the film, came that night from Cowichan and spoke afterwards about where he's gone since the making of the film.

He spoke very powerfully and I was struck by what a privilege it is to be involved in these conversations and the making of films puts me there. It allows me to have these conversations with not just the people in the film, but also the people who see the film. It puts us in a place where we can talk about this stuff in a way that we wouldn't otherwise.

•••

Christine Welsh is a Métis filmmaker who currently teaches courses on First Nations women and Indigenous Cinema in the Women's Studies department at UVic. She has worked as a filmmaker and editor for 25 years.

Her first film, Women in the Shadows *(directed by Norma Bailey), details her search for her Métis foremothers, who through marriage became involved in the history of fur-trading in Canada. It was declared the Best Documentary at the 1992 Vancouver International Film Festival.* Keepers of the Fire *(1994), her second film, asks the question, "What makes ordinary women warriors?" Welsh looks at the Haida women's struggle against logging companies at Lyell Island, the Mohawk women's resistance at Oka, the Maliseet women of Tobique, New Brunswick and their struggle for a political voice within their own communities and the women at Anduhyaun, the Toronto Native Women's shelter.*

In 1997, she co-produced Kuper Island, Return to the Healing Circle *with Peter Campbell. It tells the story of survivors of the Kuper Island Residential School.*

Her latest film, The Story of the Coast Salish Knitters *(2000), looks at the generations of women behind the Cowichan sweater, women who raised their families on the small income these sweaters brought in.*

Christine Welsh is currently working on a film about Two-Spirit women. Her films are available at the University of Victoria library.

FILM REVIEW: *ENEMY AT THE GATES*

Ural shepherd wins duel against German aristocrat

by Angela Koelling

It is the winter of 1942 amid the ruins of Stalingrad. Young Soviet soldiers who have been locked up in trains are released like cattle onto boats that ship them over the Volga to the banks of what is left of Stalin's city. The Nazi aircraft is ready to welcome them. Those who make it to the other side are handed weapon provisions: one rifle for every two men.

A guy with an English accent in a Russian uniform yells into a megaphone, "Follow your partner with the rifle. When your partner is shot then you pick up the rifle and you shoot." The soldiers who break the ranks are shot by their own people. Those who don't are already shot by the Nazis.

Into these fields of slaughter, I am somehow reminded of the documentaries on foot-and-mouth disease in Europe. But *Enemy at the Gates* is no documentary. The film depicts the horrors of war through one man's heroic challenges.

Is the happy ending a convenient message, or is it included just to make the film a complete Hollywood experience?

Young sharpshooter Vassili (Jude Law) saves a journalist's life (Joseph Fiennes). A new hero, Vassili becomes subject to the journalist's marketing strategies. Vassili is elevated from Ural shepherd to Soviet super-sniper. Under the administration of none other than Nikita Kruschev (Bob Hoskins), Vassili is exploited by the Soviet propaganda machine as a proletarian hero.

Their ranks diminished by several officers, the Nazis become slightly annoyed with Vassili and the vitalizing effect he has on Soviet resistance. Consequently, Hitler's lackeys send a Nazi equivalent, Major Koenig (Ed Harris), to put an end to Vassili. Major Koenig is the aristocratic head of the Third Reich sharp-shooting elite. In comparison, Vassili is the "fox" of the Soviet people. Their conflicting combination is a thrilling duel in the ruins of Stalingrad amid the ongoing full-scale war.

Director Jean-Jacques Annaud conveys quite a convincing site of a six-month siege by the Nazis during World War Two in mud-and-ash coloured pictures. Unfortunately, a good movie is not just about pictures. Granted, the German accent of the Nazis is well adapted by the cast (with the exception of Ed Harris, who speaks plain American). I also have to wonder why all the Soviets have English accents.

The supporting soundtrack makes the landing scene of young Soviet soldiers a hard buy. The scene's underlying music can at best be described as a chimera between Wagner and all the songs that didn't make it into Jane Campion's *the Piano*.

Even more alienating is the love triangle between Vassili, his cynical journalist friend and a Jewish lady-sniper intellectual (Rachel Weisz), who of course falls for the foxy Law. They fall so in love that they brave everything from bullets to frost bite. War and terror aside, can you imagine two people making love under a bridge in Winnipeg this time of the year?

I guess it really is necessary to make us understand why Communism had to fail, alas the high-budget American film tries too hard to undermine Communism. At the very end of the movie, the girl is killed and the cynic journalist is the only one who believes that the she is actually dead. At this point, the journalist has to deliver the movie's message on the collapse of the Soviet system: Communism failed because women interfered. Attractive women were the cause of an entire nation's ideology because they could cause rivalry between men. Since the audience knows with hindsight that the Allies will win some four and a half decades later, it seems almost too natural that the girl reappears in a war hospital later, recovered, still beautiful and now ready to live happily ever after with her Sniper lover.

Is the happy ending a convenient message, or is it included just to make the film a complete Hollywood experience?

As a convenient extension, the journalist loses his friendship with his sniper buddy and poetically laments how women inevitably turn men into rivals and treacherous beings. The American-produced film should have directed its focus away from stressing the evils of Communism. Instead, equipping a Russian military journalist with lengthy drawn-out speeches about how Communism is doomed to fail only accentuates a one-sided bias of the directorial team. A pity, considering this obvious bias undermines the film dedication to documenting the horrors of war.

There is one redeeming factor for these love scenes. One love scene did serve as a sort of post-modern highlight in a strangely inter-textual sense. In a scene which essentially can be described as flirtatious foreplay between Vassili and his girl, Vassili describes class struggle. "Who survives longer in the woods, the fox or the donkey? The donkey lives longer, because it's smart. The donkey is an intellectual..."

Someone involved in writing the screenplay must have read George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. Unfortunately, filling my literary heart with bliss does not put the film in the ranks of the Cohen brothers' Donkey, where art thou?

Smoking subsidies:

Du Maurier introduces grants for student artists

by Pierre Olivier-Savoie

MONTREAL (CUP) – You're a fine arts student and your head is bubbling with ideas for great projects. There's only one problem and it's one many young artists encounter: your project is expensive and the sources of funding are extremely scarce.

But if du Maurier is the only potential source of funding, would you take the money, keeping in mind the cigarette business assists in the deaths of 45,000 every year in Canada?

The du Maurier Arts Council announced last Tuesday a new grant program for visual art, cinema, video, multimedia and new technologies. The $125,000 set aside annually will be open to bids from graduate students as well as soon-to-graduate undergrads. The council plans to allocate between $5,000 and $15,000 per project.

Du Maurier is seeking to expand its arts patronage from more traditional art forms such as theatre and symphony orchestras to newer art forms still unrecognized, says Neil Blanche, du Maurier's marketing and communications director, as well as president of the Arts Council. Du Maurier gives about $2 million annually to 258 art groups.

But not all students would be willing to take the funding, as Concordia University fourth-year photography student Zev Tiefenbach says, he would not jump at the award money.

"In essence, this is just a training ground for new corporate artists," Tiefenbach says.

For Frédéric Metz, an Arts Council director who also teaches graphic design at the University of Quebec's Montreal campus, this new source of money should be seen in a positive light.

"This money is beneficial to help promote young artists. There's simply no grants elsewhere for students of these disciplines," Metz says. "It's very hard for artists expressing themselves with new media because the discipline is still badly recognized."

Nonetheless, the Quebec Anti-Tobacco Coalition says the main problem with the announcement is that the cigarette company is circumventing the province's tobacco law.

"The provincial law was conceived to ban any sponsorship by tobacco companies. At the same time, the law was granting a transition period to events and organizations receiving tobacco sponsorships previously to the law," says Louis Gauvin, the coalition's spokesperson.

Gauvin adds that, according to his organization's interpretation of the law, this new sponsorship is illegal, as the law's spirit is to progressively stop tobacco sponsorship, not increase it.

He is also dismayed at du Maurier's provision to ensure that winning artists mention their sponsorship when they promote their project.

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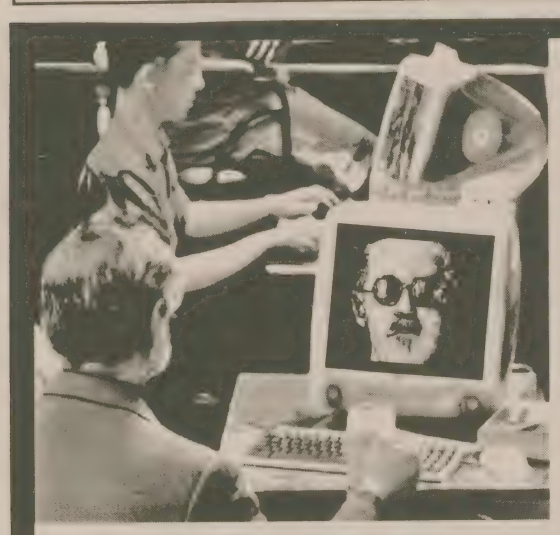
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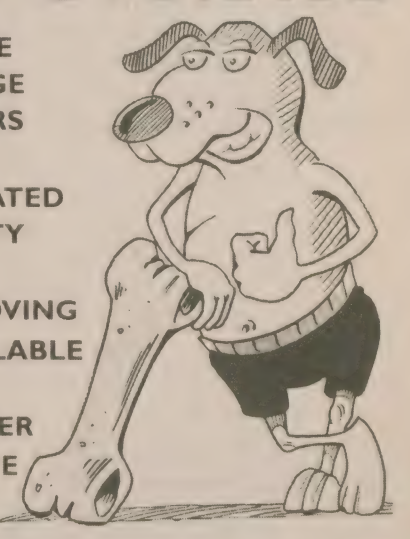
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MUSIC REVIEW

Music, movement and a little String Cheese

The String Cheese Incident
Queen Elizabeth Theatre,
Vancouver, March 16, 2001
Whistler Convention Centre,
March 18, 2001

by Laura Baron

I must admit I wasn't overly impressed by the first set of my first String Cheese Incident. It had been raining before the show and I was cold, damp, late and slightly taken aback by the spectacle underway inside.

Country music was blasting from the stage while wildly-coloured outfits, beads and dreadlocks were flailing about in the aisles. By set-break, I still wasn't feeling much more enthusiastic – the first set's general tone was a little too "hoe-down" for my taste.

However, the second set totally turned my opinion around. The bluegrass was still there, but underneath lay thick, groovy jams with overwhelming progressions and climaxes.

Moreover, the energy emanating from the band was so happy that I couldn't stop smiling the whole time. A bouncy rendition of Peter Rowan's "Panama Red" and a cover of the Talking Heads song "This Must be the Place" were the highlights. The band encored with a heavily funked-out take on Herbie Hancock's "Chameleon" that left everyone in attendance wowed. The music was eclectic but totally groovy.

After a mostly sleepless night, four friends and I made the trek to Whistler cramped in my tiny car. We settled into our room and headed to the Convention Centre. Lots of people were wandering around with their index fingers up in the air, asking for extras à la the Phish tradition of searching for "miracles."

It was obvious over the weekend that cheese fans are acutely aware of the differences between the Phish scene and the growing String Cheese scene. Several kids I spoke to who had seen the whole tour expressed contempt for the big dirty drug scene typical of Phish lots, and were proud of the kindness that cheeseheads exhibit and promote. These fans love the friendly atmosphere of their scene and are adamant about preserving it. The band appears to be equally intent on having an honest, responsible following; at the end of the final show the acoustic guitarist Bill Nershi remarked that fans have to take care of one another, be responsible, and welcome and educate newcomers to the scene.

On St. Patrick's Day, SCI played Paul Simon's "Under African Skies," an awesome surprise that had everyone in the audience going wild. Though I didn't stop dancing for the entire second set on the 18th, the encore was probably the best encore I've ever seen: Thelonious Monk's "Well You Needn't," segued into the traditional "Salt Creek" and then into a blistering "I Know You Rider."

When the dust had settled and the lights came up, Michael Kang sat down on the edge of the stage and sparked a huge joint to smoke with fans. I love that String Cheese is still small and humble enough for such a gesture.

What blows me away most about String Cheese is how one song flows into the next. The energy of the music is sustained at one level of intensity throughout a set; all the band members manipulate this energy through different tempos and genres without ever dropping the ball. At all three SCI shows, I was completely entranced by what was happening on stage. Although some of their repertoire isn't regularly my first choice, the band's total commitment to whatever they're playing makes their music truly spellbinding.

image provided

We returned home tired and a little pissed off at ourselves that we didn't make it up the mountains – late nights and bad conditions prevented any of us from buying lift tickets. Nonetheless, I had a wonderful three days seeing wicked music, hanging out with great friends and meeting new people. I'll definitely check out the next Incident in the area.

Be Good Tanyas moseying into the Vancouver scene à la *Pleasantville*

by Elyssa Warkentin

WINNIPEG (CUP) – They are down to earth, seemingly unassuming. Sometimes this good-natured approach allows them to get burned by the coldness of a big city.

The Be Good Tanyas is a three-member Vancouver band who sound like they come straight off some dusty, backwater, '50s town. Think *Pleasantville* and you get an idea of what their music is about.

Three-part vocal harmony by members Frazey Ford, Samantha Parton and Trish Klein combined with guitar, mandolin and fiddle (not to mention some sensitive songwriting and careful adaptations of traditional folk standards) produce the band's deliciously old-timey sound.

It is the eve of the start of the band's Canadian/American tour and Frazey Ford is somewhat caught up in the non-romantic realities of a starkly modern world. "I've just had a good cry," she opens, explaining that she's just got off the phone with the City of Vancouver about the $700 in outstanding parking tickets she owes. At 19 per cent interest, it's a sizeable problem. "But it's only money, right?" she asks waveringly, and bravely moves on to talk about more important things.

The band came together a few years ago, spurred on by their growing interest in a bygone (or maybe not-so-bygone) musical era. "I came back from tree-planting one summer and Sam and Trish had started playing music together, and we all met up and started jamming together. And it just happened that at that time we were all starting to play old material, old-style stuff. We all just sort of gelled," Ford says.

Her own interest in "old-style stuff" has been lifelong, rooted in her mother's love of Emmylou Harris and the folk music of mid-western United States, and a later interest in singers like Bessy Smith, Washington Phillips and Ricky Lee Jones. "Eventually I came around to really old gospel and folk, and I just love that stuff. It's really the source of today's music. And it's so rich and honest."

And although she's performed that kind of music for as long as she can remember, "harmonizing with my mom, and friends," it always took a side seat to Ford's other musical ventures in funk bands, a jazz band, and even a Montreal trip-hop band. Only now, as a member of the Be Good Tanyas, has it come into the forefront.

"We're all pretty strong personalities," Ford says of her bandmates. "It's like a relationship – you have to compromise, and respect each other's creative processes. You have to listen really carefully to what someone's trying to express. It's a sensitive process that we bumble through." Still, the advantage of the "close musical support" the band offers makes it more than worthwhile. "To have everyone contributing creatively makes it more exciting for everybody."

Songwriting and selection is an organic process in which each band member participates. Traditional selections are based on "whatever I've been listening to. If a song pops into my head and I have a take on it that feels really good, I'll start singing it," Ford says.

And a lot of the original material on the band's recent debut album *Blue Horse* is written before the band had even formed. Recording of Blue Horse was rumored to have taken place in a shack with no windows or running water on the outskirts of Vancouver. Ford sets the record straight. "It was a shack – a recording shack owned by our producer and friend, Futcher [of the band Helen Keller]. He's got a home studio that's really nice, but he lives there too, so it's really basic. No light. Had to go outside to see the sun."

Still, the relaxed atmosphere during recording comes across in the laid-back feel of the album. "It was really fun, just drinking wine, up till four in the morning working on our harmonies... It was just like being at Futcher's house. We'd do a take, we'd sit back and chat, we'd laugh, we'd go back and do another take... people are so stressed going in that it's hard to get back to that natural state." But that "natural state" is exactly where the Be Good Tanyas want to be. Their love of travel and interest in old recording technology led producer Futcher down to Cuba last November to dig for local recording studios. And although all three members are currently situated in Vancouver, "We all move around a lot. We consider moving here and there. We were all thinking of moving to New Orleans last year when it was really cold. But we're here. We like it here."

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New bylaw may change Victoria's rave scene

DAC to approve safe after-hours dance halls

by Kevin Groves

I'm standing in what used to be Scandals nightclub beside Whitebird Records, owned by 23-year-old John Beaumier, and I can't help but be impressed.

Beside the inconspicuous record store at 764-A Yates Street, sits a massive amount of indoor space. Beaumier takes me on the grand tour, and we go down a level to area which measures 3,200 square feet. He points to walls that will be knocked down, an old-fashioned bar soon to be extracted, and places where dj booths will sit. The fact is, we're both excited.

I now know where I'm going to hang out over the summer, should Beaumier's plans to open his after-hours dance hall finally come to fruition.

What's stopping him is the infamous dance hall after-hours bylaw, passed by Victoria's city council in July 1998, which does not permit a dance hall to remain open for business later than 2 a.m. on any day except Monday.

> I think that the present bylaw is a violation of the Charter of Rights and I won't be sorry to see it go.
>
> *John Beaumier, founder of Whitebird Records*

Last September Beaumier and Kyle Michael of ESProductions drafted a proposal to make dance halls safe and legal. Now the city is gathering information on the feasibility of changing the bylaw into a permit system, where a location can be approved to run all-hours on an ongoing basis, or just for one night. Assuming council approves the proposal, permits could be available by the summer.

Beaumier says that watching his work come to fruition has been an ongoing battle with municipal red tape.

"I started Whitebird Records in October of 1998," he says. "And there have been two memorable times since then when parties that I threw at Scandals have been shut down."

The first occurred last August. Police response was swift and decisive, and Beaumier's attempt to throw a party was shut down before it even started, despite the fact that he had permission from his landlord to "do whatever."

"They told me that I had to have a business license to throw a party, and that I needed proper lighting and a fire extinguisher."

The second incident, last October, was nasty.

"I had the fire extinguisher and the lighting that time. I argued with the cops for about an hour, and they said I should basically shut it down or else."

By this point, though, Beaumier had already started doing something about it. In September 2000, he and Kyle Michael approached the Victoria Downtown Advisory Committee (DAC) with a proposal to allow his space to run after hours.

Stating that the current bylaw system had not stopped after-hours dance halls from appearing, the report argued that the result has been increased illegal venues in Victoria "with all the elements for disaster present: overcrowding, drugs, crime and underage youth mixing with intoxicated adults."

In the end, the proposal had the desired effect on the DAC "They approved it four to one, and the committee said they would scrap the bylaw system and replace it with a permit system based on other cities like Vancouver."

Vancouver issued a permit for an after-hours dance hall on Granville Street in 1998. Called "Sublime," it opened on a six-month trial basis, and is still in operation today. Several other cities in Canada currently operate after-hours dance halls, including Toronto, Montreal and Calgary.

Yet, if the permit system has been approved by the DAC, what is taking so long for it to come into effect?

Elizabeth Low, Downtown Coordinator for the Community Development Division of Victoria, says that the process is a slow one for a couple of reasons.

"Once our solicitors are done, we want to meet with local rave promoters to see if the new system is workable, then we'll submit our report to City Council for their approval."

Assuming council approves of the decision, some of the criteria to acquire a permit for an after-hours dance hall will deal with issues such as fire approval, available drinking water and noise containment.

"We should have the report ready for Council next month," says Lowe. For Beaumier, though, the slow move toward after-hours parties in Victoria is an inevitable one.

"Demographically, the rave scene in Victoria is huge, and there needs to be an outlet for that. I understand the police's stance on fighting the war on drugs, but it's an old fashioned attitude. I think that the present bylaw is a violation of the Charter of Rights and I won't be sorry to see it go."

Beaumier also has big plans for Scandals once he does get it running again. He's planning a show April 3 featuring Cari Lekebush and Joel Mull, two Swedish Techno djs who are currently ranked very high on the international talent scale. I'll probably be one of the first people lining up to check it out.

Getting familiar with Oasis

Oasis
Familiar to Millions
2000

by Ben Hadaway

With the exception of the song "Helter Skelter," *Familiar To Millions* was wholly recorded from the first of two Wembley Stadium shows last summer. The second show saw Oasis singer and miscreant Liam Gallagher characteristically boozed-up and totally out of control.

Seventy thousand fans packed the stadium to hear England's best rock band rip through their five-album catalogue. The song lineup relies heavily on Oasis' first two albums, *Definitely Maybe* and *(What's The Story) Morning Glory?* and their newest studio album, *Standing On The Shoulder Of Giants*.

The level of audience enthusiasm at the show is impressive. Usually audience participation comes off weak, but when Noel Gallagher lets the crowd sing the chorus to "Don't Look Back In Anger" they bellow with all their English might. It often sounds more like a rollicking Manchester United soccer match than a rock concert.

The album sees Oasis cover the Beatles, as well as Neil Young's "Hey Hey, My My." Other noteworthy songs on the album include "Go Let It Out," complete with Liam cursing incoherently at the audience, "Champagne Supernova," and an electrified version of "Wonderwall."

New Oasis guitarist Gem Archer is a much-needed addition to the band. He takes over most of the soloing and does a better job than big brother Noel, especially on "Supersonic."

Overall the album is hard, heavy and layered with good guitar. Both brothers can sing, but it's Liam's cockney drawl that really stands out.

Despite criticism that Oasis has dried up, *Familiar To Millions* is testament that the fab five are still a great band. While Radiohead and their legion of rip-offs continue to put out boring and pretentious albums, it's nice to hear something cool that doesn't take itself too seriously.

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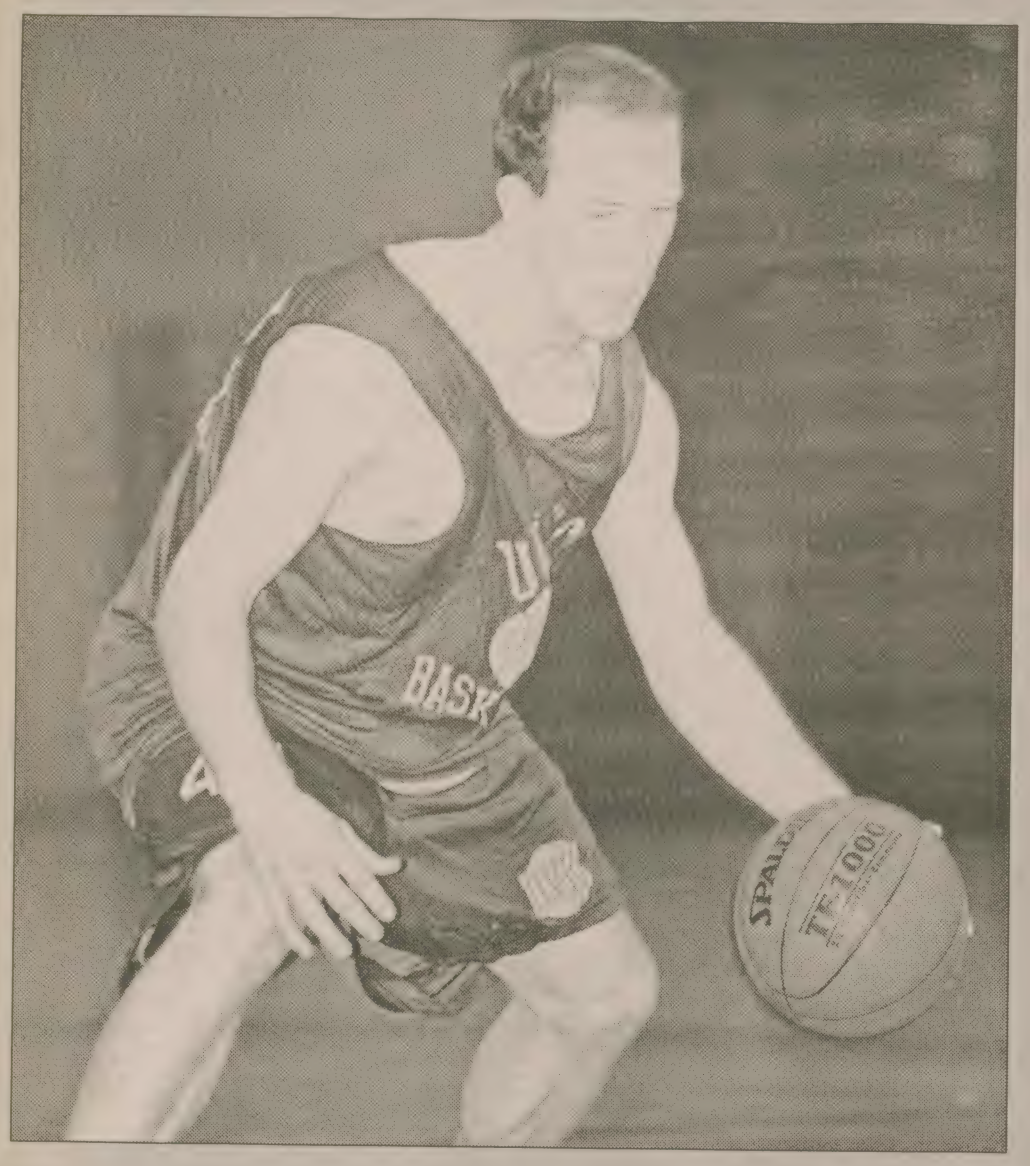


photo by Richard Warrington

If you can tell us who this player is drop by the Martlet office (b011) and pick up your prize.

Today's 'athletes' make up for lack of style with acts of circus perversion

by Kris Kotarski

CALGARY (CUP) – I watched *When We Were Kings* the other day with my friends and I was amazed. I know Muhammad Ali is a once in a lifetime athlete, but his originality and his style really shocked me.

What the hell happened to athletes like him? Where are the pioneers, the Wilt Chamberlains, the Jackie Robinsons, the Maurice Richards? I don't want to take away from the accomplishments of any of today's superb athletes, but where is the originality?

Ali revolutionized his sport. In the physical sense, he showed a big man can move like a middleweight. He also introduced trash talking and psychology to boxing in a way that changed the sweet science forever. What did today's athletes change? Maybe they showed future generations how to showboat in a stupid way, or maybe they discovered new ways to make money and hold out on contracts.

What will we remember when we look at the 1990s? Will it be Michael Jordan with his tongue out driving down the lane, or will it be Jordan selling Big Macs in a commercial. Will we remember Wayne Gretzky the hockey star, or Gretzky the owner? Maybe we'll remember Alexei Yashin and his crazy shenanigans in Ottawa, or maybe Roger Clemens throwing everything but the kitchen sink at Mike Piazza's head?

Wait, maybe someone came up with an interesting new way to get fans into boxing or maybe the Olympics have regained their long lost lustre. No, we will remember Mike Tyson chewing on an ear and Ross Rebagliati with a reefer. What else can we bring up in this search for originality? Maybe the "Dirty Bird?" No, that's just the Atlanta Falcons doing a poor imitation of the Bears and their "Superbowl Shuffle."

Wait! I know, what about Shaq? He raps. He dances. He stars in box-office hits like "Steel!" and "Blue Chips." Oh my, looks like we found a winner. To bad most high-school ball players can shoot a free throw better than Shaq-diesel. Too bad, the big guy almost made it.

So what will the last decade of the 20th Century be remembered for? Who were the innovators who will go down in history books? Just about the only people I can think of are professional wrestlers, Tiger Woods and O.J. Simpson. The wrestlers changed their "sport" in the 90s to a bitch-slapping, table-breaking circus of perversion.

Tiger, as much as I respect his skill is not an athlete. Golf is not a sport. And he whores himself out to corporations with that creepy million-dollar grin faster then we can collectively puke. And O.J., well, let's just not say anything else about Mister Simpson.

So what are we left with? Shaq? Tiger? Gretz, Jordan, maybe Mark McGuire? No thanks, I'd rather see them on the field, on the court and on the ice rather than selling me gasoline, batteries or whatever else they may advertise.

So where were we? Ah yes, the wrestlers. Hey, I'm a pro-rasslin' fan just like I'm a sports fan. Wrestling is staged, but the athleticism is amazing and more people watch wrestling every week then Monday Night Football. Well lahdee-fricken-dah for Vince McMahon.

But it's a damn shame for us that I'll have to remember the end of the millennium for Stone Cold Steve Austin and the Rock, and not someone as great as Muhammad Ali.

The best sport on Earth

by Daorcey LeBray

CALGARY (CUP) – Curling's on! As odd as it may sound, most people know; stranger yet, most people care. So the question, amidst the ironic giggling is: how could a game that only ten years ago was a professional beer league turn into a sport that captivates the Canadian viewer?

For starters, Curling centers around a sheet of ice. The average Canadian is drawn to ice like a beaver craves wood. And there's no stopping nature. It's about "sex in the snow," being "the true north strong and free," and all that jazz that typifies Jack and Jill Canadian.

In the afterglow of Brier and the Tournament of Hearts, it seems all one has to do is find a pond and a couple of horse droppings to make some wholesome Canadian curling fun.

Speaking of hockey, it illustrates the egocentric truth of successful Canadian sports. The keyword here is "successful," and you can't help but notice the remaining Canadian NHL teams are performing substandardly against each and every expansion team in the league. The public is fed up enough to no longer care. Where were you and I when the Canadiens were sold?

So we turned our eyes to national curling championships, forcing ourselves to love what some have called "glorified shuffleboard."

But we really *do* love the game. We love it for the frantic "SWEEP! HURRY HARD!" of dead-serious grown women. We love the characters curling produces: they are Jack and Jill Canadian. And we love the fact that Canada again has a sport where they can beat the US 10 times out of 10.

It's sad, but curling enjoys a large following because we dominate the world stage. Was there any doubt Sandra Schmirler and company would take a gold medal at the Olympics? No, but we watched anyway. We cheered her on, felt Canadian and swelled with pride 'cause it felt so good to win.

Sometimes I feel sad for the Canadian people when I realize that it doesn't take much for us to rally behind the winning team. Look at curling, even winning there feels good.

UVic sports in brief

Results from the 2001 Vikes Athletics Awards Banquet held March 22 at the Empress Hotel:

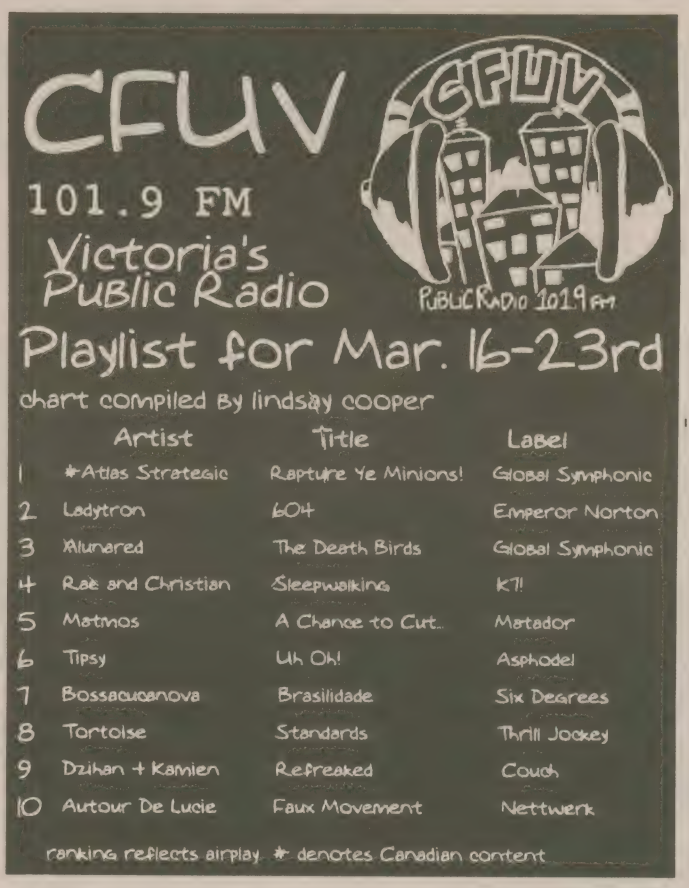
Outstanding Athletes of the Year:
Jeff Williams – Rugby
Andrea Rushton – Field Hockey
Lindsay Brooke – Basketball

Robert T. Wallace Shield (rookie of the year):
Jason Hunter – Swimming

Martlet Athletic Award (outstanding contribution to the athletic program – service):
Albert Burgund – Assistant coach swimming

University Sport Award (outstanding achievement in the current season):
Chris Craveiro – Soccer
Anna Grimes – Field Hockey

Provost Award for Excellence (Highest academic average):
Sarah Hanna – Rugby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PUBLIC RADIO 101.9 FM
Playlist for Mar. 16-23rd
chart compiled by lindsay cooper
Artist | Title | Label
1 *Atlas Strategic | Rapture Ye Minions! | Global Symphonic
2 Ladytron | 604 | Emperor Norton
3 Alunared | The Death Birds | Global Symphonic
4 Rae and Christian | Sleepwalking | K7!
5 Matmos | A Chance to Cut... | Matador
6 Tipsy | Uh Oh! | Asphodel
7 Bossacucanova | Brasilidade | Six Degrees
8 Tortoise | Standards | Thrill Jockey
9 Dzihan + Kamien | Refreaked | Couch
10 Autour De Lucie | Faux Movement | Nettwerk
ranking reflects airplay * denotes Canadian content

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Sports fan rocked by perverse eagerness

Sports fan Ian McLetchie experiences golf, ponders green hippos and anticipates tee-off shivers

by Iain McLetchie

Ah, the Green Jacket. Visions of magnolia blossoms in April, perfectly manicured Georgia fairways, lush green grass, and above all else, a distinct feeling of awe. The Masters is the greatest tournament in gold, played at its most hallowed shrine (if you are an American that is): Augusta National Golf Club.

Every spring, the Master's winner is presented with the coveted Green Jacket and has it placed upon his shoulders by the previous year's champion. It is, as CBS states every year, "A tradition unlike any other."

So it seemed natural that a group of us would play our own version of this classic tourney. Much like another group of acquaintances who play a yearly Hookah Bowl (yes, that's right, the Chronics-R-Us Bowl), this would become an event of huge magnitude and importance in our lives; one which would have us dreaming of birdies on Thursday nights and cursing about bogeys on Saturday.

The foursome was constant. Scotty claimed to rip it up every time he played, but never seems to when we actually got at it. Noaksie hit it long, especially for a little guy, but was notorious for his excruciatingly slow play. Mike, the relative novice, had a nice swing and the most passion of us all. And me? Well, I could talk a mean bit of smack on the tee, and sometimes – OK I lied: rarely – backed it up.

Scotty supplied the green jacket. "Fittingly," he said, "because I'll win it every week," while Mike and Noakes took turns supplying the "other green" for themselves. All in all, a perfect setup for a lively round of golf.

In the early going of last September, our weekly outing began to assume the trappings of a proper tradition, and Scotty seemed to win every week, much to our chagrin. Nonetheless the gap between this self-professed golf prodigy and ourselves was narrowing, leaving faint glimmers of hope in our minds that, indeed, one day someone else would get to take the jacket home and bask in the glory that came with it. However, as fall progressed into early winter, we played with less and less regularity, and never seemed to make up too much ground on our perpetual champion.

With school starting to take it's heavy toll on our minds, time and pocketbooks, we had to cut back on the playing. In fact, the last round played was way back in November, and it was a glorious moment.

Two of our players were replaced by another couple of friends, both of whom exhibited strong golfing skills. Bets were placed, and large loot was riding on our performances that day. And boy did we perform.

My stunning birdie on the first hole set the stage for a grand day. (Stunning only because, for me, birdieing a hole is about as rare as a green hippopotamus swimming in the Inner Harbour.) By the time the first nine holes were complete, the order was set. Scotty was slowly taking us apart with a methodical, disciplined approach to the course.

With the chew firmly entrenched between his lower gums and lips, he looked like a man on mission. Abe and Cooper, the two imports, were still on pace to win a few skins, but had been shut out to that point. I think I had a few skins, but that could just be time favouring my memory.

The second nine brought more of the same, highlighted though by a friendly feline visitor, who walked onto the 12th tee as we putted out. Our new friend joined us as we played the 13th, a short par 3, and provided a welcome relief to the intensity and anguish that had so far accompanied our round.

Despite our best efforts, we couldn't close in on Scotty, and, as we played 18 in the settling twilight, it was agreed, albeit grudgingly, that the winner had played a solid round of golf. So we walked the last, lonely stretch of the links to our vehicles, content in the assurance of a day well spent; with in the knowledge that there would be more of them to come.

However, no more golf outings have come my way this year, and therein lies the gist of my tale. I actually miss the sport. Those amongst us who have never trodden a fairway early (so terribly early) in the morning, or hit perfect draw into a green, or hit a winding bomb of a putt can't appreciate the beauty of this game.

Yeah, I know what you're thinking, "Any game where a guy can pound back a six-pack and smoke a pack while playing isn't a sport." You know what? I used to think that way too. It wasn't until actually playing the game that I really appreciated the skill needed to hit a shot. Golf's a killer. A self-professed sporting perfectionist, I simply couldn't handle it at first.

Every time I shanked a drive, my club was sent into linear orbit. Every time I chunked an approach, my clubhead was slammed into the ground. (I called it manual aerating at the time... something at which my dad just shook his head.) And every time I missed an easy putt, I would take a baseball swing at the ball, more often than not bending my putter completely out of shape.

It wasn't until the onset of my mid-20s, and the athletic mellowing which accompanied it, before I could actually play a round without having an apoplectic fit. Now I'm content to wallow in the beauty of nature, and in the single-minded pursuit of a perfect round. Sounds like fun? Well it is, even if that perfect round is far from happening.

I'm looking forward to my next round with a perverse eagerness. The thought of teeing up on the first hole sends shiver's up and down my spine. A friend informed me the other day that he'd just played Victoria Golf Club. My response? "You little bastard."

It was all I could muster, given my overwhelming jealousy. Golf is a great sport, and one which exerts a huge headlock on you once you get into it.

To those of you jocks who have never tried golf, or made fun of another sport (field hockey comes to mind), all I have to say is give it a try. You might be shocked at how difficult it actually is, and you may just find that you want to keep trying it a little more.

Bears skipper named CIAU coach of the year

by Barrie Tanner

EDMONTON (CUP) – A month ago, University of Alberta Golden Bears head coach Rob Daum was named the 2000-2001 Canada West Hockey Coach of the Year. This marked the second time in the last three seasons he has been conferred with the honour.

The accolades didn't stop there, however. At the CIAU national championships last Thursday, Daum was presented with the Father George Kehoe Memorial Award as the nation's top university skipper.

The 2000/2001 Canada West was the most successful campaign for Daum, who began his career as the twentieth head coach of the Alberta program in July of 1995.

> It's very, very difficult to build a tradition and very, very easy to take one apart.
>
> *Rob Daum*

The team concluded the regular season with an outstanding 25-1-2 record, finishing atop the conference standings a full 15 points ahead of second-place Manitoba. In doing so, the Bears set 10 conference records including most wins and points, and lowest goals against average (0.929).

"[The Canada West coaching Award] is a great honour bestowed upon me, but really it's an honour for the whole organization," explained Daum, a 43-year old native of Churchbridge, Saskatchewan. "It's a combination of all of our efforts, from the assistant coaches to, more importantly, the players' efforts."

Daum has directed the Bears to six consecutive post-seasons (1996-2001), a 123-29-16 overall regular season record, and four visits to the University Cup national championships. But it is the last two that stand out in his mind.

"My most memorable moments have been the two national titles [the Bears have won over the last two years]," said Daum. "Winning's not the be-all and end-all, but it's a terrific achievement by everyone in the program."

"When you achieve something that everyone has been working for, it's a rewarding experience," continued Daum. "And to do it twice is an really positive experience."

Daum draws much of his leadership abilities from an unlikely source: the past. Naming such cornerstones to the Golden Bear tradition as former coaches Bill Moores and Clare Drake, Daum feels that, to do them justice, only the best performance is acceptable.

"There have been people in this program over the last while [such as Moores and Drake] who have worked hard to make the Golden Bear program the number-one university program in the country," commented Daum. "It's a challenge to maintain that and I've tried hard not to let them down and make their efforts go for naught.

"It's very, very difficult to build a tradition and very, very easy to take one apart," said Daum. "There's a stable tradition in the Bears hockey program because of the sheer quality of the players in the program."

Daum went on to explain that the tradition is not just about winning championships, but rather the values that go along with the end result.

"If the values are kept, success takes care of itself," commented Daum. "My award is just a reflection of everyone involved in the team."

At last weekend's University Cup in Kitchener, Ont., number one seeded Alberta was eliminated from the championship game with a pair of shocking 5-3 losses at the hands of the Western Ontario Mustangs (Friday) and the St. Francis Xavier X-Men (Saturday).

In Sunday's national final, the number two seed Universite a Quebec Trois Riviere Patroites needed two overtime periods to defeat the X-Men, 5-4. UQTR's Marc-Etienne Hubert scored the winning goal at of the second overtime. The title is UQTR's first since 1991. The Patroites' Alexandre Tremblay was named Tournament MVP.

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MORE LETTERS:

Peter needs to take responsibility

This letter is in response to the past couple of weeks editions of *the Martlet* on the topic of Mr. Verin. I have seen several letters now that try to make the UVic's administration look like a dictatorship and to make Mr. Verin some type of victim. Supporters of Mr. Verin continually say that UVic is a public place and that it is his right to be allowed into the buildings. Yes, it is true that UVic is a public place but a person also has to abide by the rules, not trash the classrooms or act in a threatening manner. It is just like a pub or restaurant owner has the right to throw out any unruly patrons. It seems the University has continually given Mr. Verin several chances and each time Mr. Verin has shown disdain for these rules. It is therefore not UVic's fault but that of Mr. Verin.

I think you also have to take UVic's point of view on this situation. What do you think if a prospective student is visiting UVic with his or her family and they see Peter sleeping in a classroom? Or, how about if they go into another room and see trash on the floor?

The University has to protect its image. The University has to also provide a clean atmosphere for the teachers or conflicts can arise between teachers and the administration.

I feel sorry for homeless people, I honestly do, but it is not society's or the University administration's fault. Some of his supporters, along with Mr. Verin himself, claim that he is a valuable addition to the University. I hope a solution can be found for both parties. Maybe the school can adopt a "zero tolerance" policy similar to what the University of Indiana did with Bobby Knight. (And no I am not trying to compare the two people, just the situations).

Give Mr. Verin another chance but he must be aware of the rules and bide by them. If Mr. Verin fails to comply with these rules, or is unwilling to accept them, then the school has every right to protect its image.

Robert Dager

Ethics and investments can mix

Michael Cox reported that I said we were asking for a process "which would allow student's the opportunity for input" ("Walkout calls for boycott, ethical stock," March 22) but that's actually quite untrue! We already *do* have a way for students to voice their concerns. It's called the Policy on Social Responsibility, which we used to ask UVic to divest from Talisman Oil, Shell Oil, Slocan Forest Products, Imperial Oil and TD Bank (they're just a few of the companies UVic invested in in '99-2000). Far from asking for another means for students to provide input, we felt that the responsibility should be placed on those who make these decisions. the current policy is inadequate because the investments we objected to are short-term, and it takes time for students to get the names, research the companies, make the petition, get it signed and submit it to the committee for review. By that time, UVic might already have gone on to invest in a different yet equally objectionable company! For these reasons, we also asked UVic to implement an ethical screening process that addresses sustainability concerns *before* investing and that doesn't depend on students to be the conscience of the finance committee.

We certainly realize the university needs to make money! Still, we were concerned that UVic has invested in companies that Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch Report, Greenpeace, church organizations and even the Canadian government have labeled either destructors of the environment or contributors to human rights abuses. That's why we asked UVic to either implement ethical screens or to engage in shareholder activism. Socially responsible investments not only carry similar monetary as conventional ones, but they also bring reassurance that we are not contributing to ecological destruction or human rights abuses.

Glenys Verhulst, SAVE Coalition

Where all are the Fluevogs gone?

I'm writing in utter disgust after reading an article in the last issue about people walking barefoot in the SUB building. How can people even contemplate walking around barefoot on this campus? You heathens! You puss monkeys. Shame, shame, double-shame. Do you know how many diseases your feet collect? Look what's happening over in England and Ireland for Christ sake. They're burning cattle quicker than peat moss! And it's all because of the vermin and scuzz we create and proliferate here on planet Earth.
We aren't animals goddammit. Socks are cheap. So are shoes.

Jennifer Jones

ON CAMPUS

CHAI Victoria – Jewish Students Association offers a full and varied schedule of programming. Feel free to check us out or to join us at our next event. For more details, please contact us at jewish@uvic.ca or at the INFO-LINE 370-9488, ext. 2.

New service! Two Jewish chaplains are now available on campus. Gidi Nahshon, MSW, is available on Mondays and Wednesdays 5-6 pm, while Joel Fagan, MD, is available on Tuesdays 4-5 pm. Drop by to discuss what's on your mind – not just spiritual matters. For more information, please contact 721-8338.

"Ring-Out" the week with Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship every Friday night! Everyone is welcome to join us for Praise, Worship, Singing, Prayer, Fellowship and Teaching! Have a Bible? Bring it! See you Friday nights for Ring-Out in Cle C 112 at 7:30 p.m.

OFF CAMPUS

The 2001 Inner Harbour Review launch and reading, **Fri. March 30** at 8 p.m. at Open Space, 510 Fort St. Features readers and an open-mic.

The Moss Street Market is gearing up for another season of organic produce and herbs, organic baked goods, crafts and a variety of interesting creations. Drop by the first market of the year, Saturday, April 28 at 10 a.m. and see what the market has to offer this year. The market is located at Sir James Douglas School, Thurlow + Fairfield.

TUTORS

English, philosophy tutor, $15/hr. Carlos 881-8784.

French – essays, translation, grammar, literature and discussion. $15/hr. Magali 598-3344.

English/Philosophy. Essay critique, proofreading, assignment discussion, etc. Enjoy learning but need a little assistance to fulfill your potential? I can help. Call Janet at 595-8438.

French tutor needed. I need someone to explain French grammar at 182 level. Preferably with a B+ or A average. I'm willing to pay $20/hr. Please call Margot at 598-0209 if you can help.

VOLUNTEERS

Victoria non-profit charitable organization in need of new volunteers for various duties. For more information, please call 382-7927 and speak to Shawn.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Therapeutic Massage. Professional Massage Therapist offering one hour sessions for only $30. Methods focus on relief from chronic pain, deep relaxation, and the balancing of all body systems. David 592-0149.

Transforming Family Life with Gary Reiss, certified process trainer. Process Orientated Family Therapy offers tools for dealing with the intense flames of family life. For individuals and couples who want to work on their own families, and therapists who want to learn more about this method of working with families. **April 20, 21,** and **22**. Registration $190 before **April 6**. Contact 384-2870.

Pottery, sculpture & hand-building classes with continuous registration available. Six 2.5 hour classes, flexible, $160. Call Potter's Corner at 383-5446 for more details.

GARAGE SALES

Garage sale at 102 Moss Street. Come one, come all. Spring or fall, multi-family, multi-purpose, furniture, household goods, clothes, etc. **Sat. March 30**, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be there.

HELP WANTED

Summer camp staff needed to work at a co-ed special needs camp serving children with ADD/LD in Pennsylvania, USA. We're looking for program staff and cabin cousellors; experience with special needs childrens children essential. Excellent facilities, many Canadian staff, travel allowance of $350 (US), salary of $1500 (US), working VISA/medical insurance provided, as well as accomodation. For local interviews call Bob or Kyle at 381-8682.

Editors wanted for document editing. Edit in your spare time. For more information and to apply, visit www.einscribe.net

Outdoor Ed & Summer Camp opportunities available at Camp Chief Hector in Seebe, Alberta! We are looking for enthusiastic staff to run Earth Ed. & Outdoor Pursuits programs for spring/summer. For more info email thompsonsara@hotmail.com

Quality English teaching jobs in Korea. Good salaries & free airfare and accommodation. Easily save 15K in one year. Degree required. Tel: 604-408-3760 or fax 604-408-3761. Info at www.asia-pacific-connections.com

Painters wanted – Experience an asset but not necessary. Vehicle an asset. Call Casey at 721-5906.

Attention university/college students: full-time spring and summer jobs available in marketing and painting. No experience necessary. Car an asset. Leave message at 475-8321.

Thinking about working for a summer camp in the US? I've got the goods... email any questions about Mah-Kee-Nac or Danbee to bcook023@hotmail.com

Travel – teach English. 5 day/40 hr (**May 16-20**) TESOL teacher cert. course (or by correspondence). 1,000s of jobs available NOW. Free info pack, toll free 1-888-270-2941.

HEY YOU

Well **Eris**, two coffee strikeouts in one day. Pretty poor, eh? Where's my cigarette?

Andy or **Drew**, or just plain **Andrew**, play that "Crash" for me, will ya? It sends shivers down me timbers!

That's it, my lovely lass Corbin! You perk up so nicely at the sound of your name – we miss you so.

Satan: he's a damn good example of what you can't learn in the University of Life. Suck my... toe, buddy.

Window-gazing, sock-monkey-making wonder boy: you make me (want to) pee my pants.

Luke "Red Jacket" Bradley... (aka PoliSci hottie). We want to rock your Cashar! Luv Betty and Ronnie.

Arlitokay, You are the calcium sulphate to my tofu. Without you I am soy milk.

Huckleberry jam, a thespian's birthday, and the most beautiful water gardens from mom and dad in town; a dream better than yesterday's pants.

Tiger, I'm watching your Nike ass.

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... evil Drug-Lord Tito is up to No Good.
what can we do girls? we can't get caught in possession!
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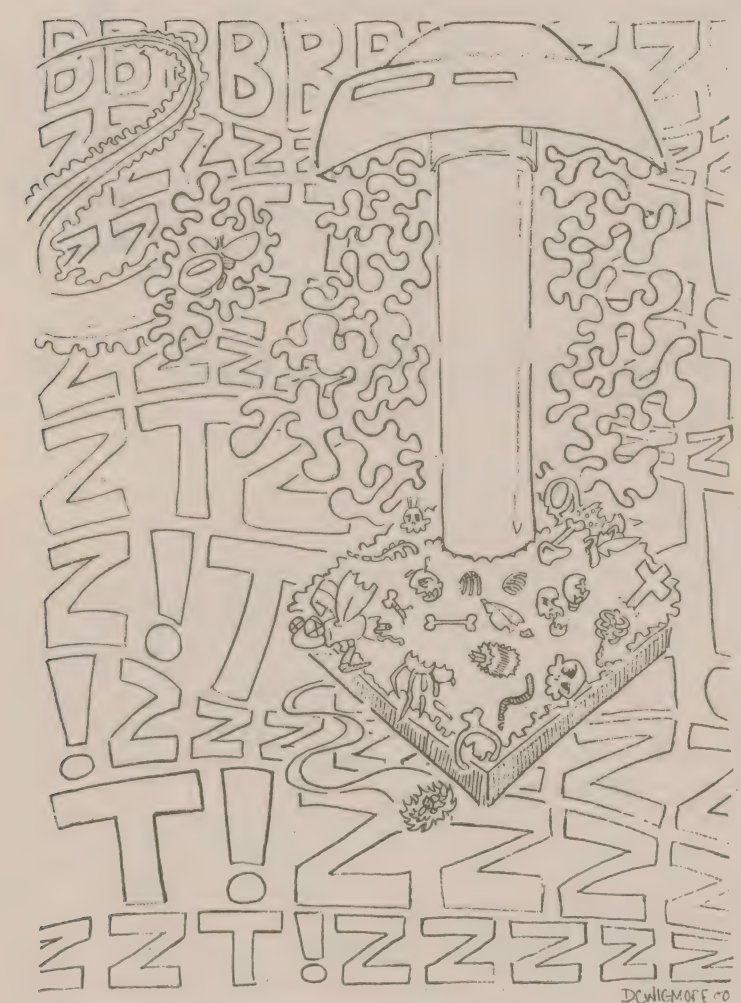
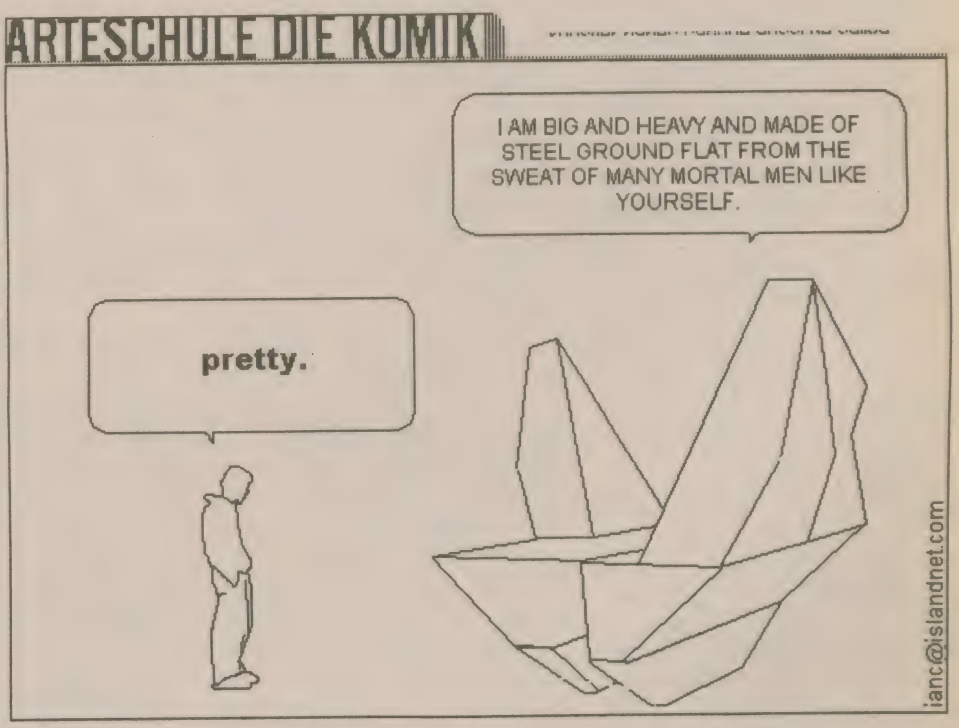
While Loading the tour bus....
Oh no! Melody! You broke my Drumb!
But Look!
Jo
Val
OH NO
DRUGS
LSD
BETH
Ronnie



BEWARE THE AESTHETIC


ARTESCHULE DIE KOMIK
I AM BIG AND HEAVY AND MADE OF STEEL GROUND FLAT FROM THE SWEAT OF MANY MORTAL MEN LIKE YOURSELF.
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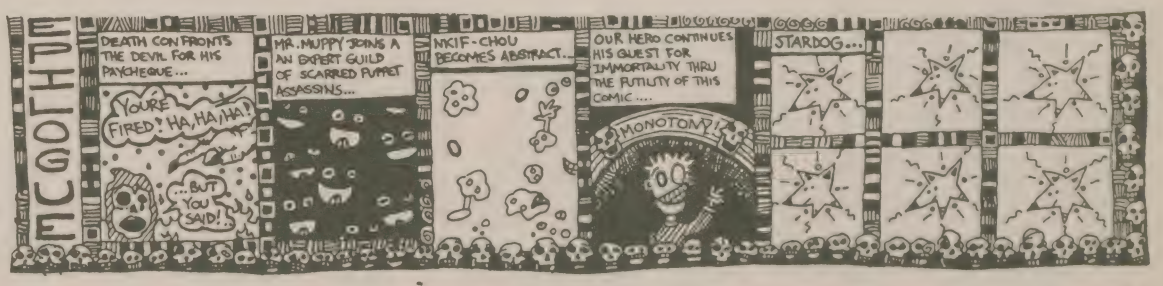
ianc@islandnet.com

YOU KNOW, BERTBERT — MIDDLE MANAGEMENT IS REALLY GETTING ME DOWN...


MICROTHEM
DEATH CONFRONTS THE DEVIL FOR HIS PAYCHEQUE...
YOU'RE FIRED! HA,HA,HA!
...BUT YOU SAID!
MR. MUPPY JOINS A AN EXPERT GUILD OF SCARRED PUPPET ASSASSINS...
NKIF-CHOU BECOMES ABSTRACT...
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6 Field Engineer Squadron - North Vancouver, Chilliwack
6 Intelligence Company - Vancouver
11 Medical Company - Victoria
11 Service Battalion - Victoria
12 Medical Company - Vancouver
12 Service Battalion - Richmond
15 Field Artillery Regiment - Vancouver, Aldergrove
44 Field Engineer Squadron - Trail
British Columbia Dragoons - Kelowna, Vernon
British Columbia Regiment - Vancouver
Canadian Scottish Regiment - Victoria, Comox, Nanaimo
Rocky Mountain Rangers - Kamloops
Royal Westminster Regiment - New Westminster, Aldergrove
Seaforth Highlanders of Canada - Vancouver

Air Reserve Units
19 Air Reserve Augmentation Flight - Comox, Victoria
192 Airfield Engineering Flight - Abbotsford

Communication Reserve Units
741 Communication Squadron - Victoria
744 Communication Regiment - Vancouver, Surrey
748 Communication Squadron - Nanaimo

Naval Reserve Units
HMCS Discovery - Vancouver
HMCS Malahat - Victoria

Why should I join?

Master Corporal Phatixx Fuller
Time Served: 7 years
Military Occupation: R031 Infantry Soldier
Status: Currently deployed to Kosovo with the United Nations. Training for a future career in the public service sector.

"My biggest rewards have been my personal accomplishments, the hardships I have overcome, and the close friendships I've developed. My work ethic has become stricter, and I've also become more diligent."

- You'll earn a good paycheque during your service in the Reserve. All of your uniforms and equipment are provided, and accommodations and meals are provided when you are away from home. You will also receive medical and dental reimbursement subsidies, and access to service insurance plans*.

- You'll find more varied and interesting opportunities to learn new skills in the Reserve than any other part-time civilian job you'll encounter. There are over 50 different occupational specialties to choose from, including technical, mechanical, medical, administrative, and operational fields.

- You'll build life skills today's employers are looking for. Skills like teamwork, time management, self-discipline, and especially leadership. And you'll become a more confident and capable person.

- You'll face the adventure of meeting new challenges, and overcoming them. You'll find that serving just one night a week and one weekend a month will be an exciting break from the regular 9-to-5 routine.

- You'll experience the pride of serving your country as well as the community you live in. Throughout your service, you'll travel and meet people from home and across Canada. And if you're interested, you could volunteer for peacekeeping duties with the United Nations. You will have the opportunity to make a difference in Canada and the world.

Sergeant Tracy Liberty
Time Served: 12 years
Military Occupation: R836 Resource Management Support Clerk
Status: Recently returned from an operational tour in Egypt with the Multinational Force and Observers, which was created to supervise the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt.

"My tour in Egypt has become the highlight of my Reserve career. I plan to continue on with my Reserve service because it's a part of my life I would miss if I were to release. I enjoy it. It's something completely different from any other job. You work together as a team and you become more disciplined in everything you do."

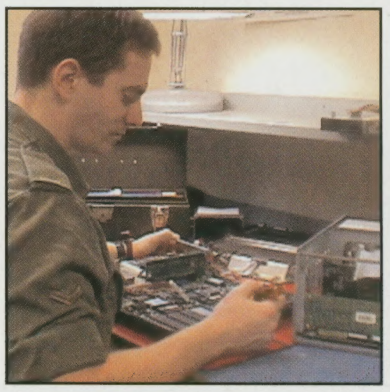
What is the commitment?

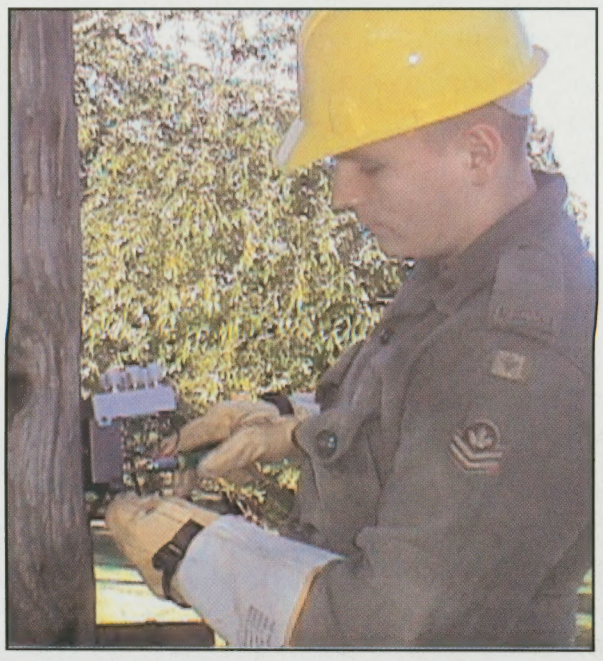
Captain Rod Needham
Time Served: 15 years
Military Occupation: R48 Health Care Administration Officer
Status: Employed as an Elementary School Teacher in civilian life.

"The Reserve made me the person I am today. It developed my leadership ability, organizational skills, and self-confidence. It also gave me the drive to return to university for 7 years to become a teacher. I really can't imagine what my life would be like without the benefit of the experiences and lessons I've received through the Reserve."

When you enroll in the Reserve, you'll sign a voluntary contract with no fixed term of service, which means you decide how long you wish to serve. Your contract does not require you to attend each and every scheduled training day, as your civilian job or education must come first. You are expected, however, to attend at least one training day per month, and complete your qualification courses when your schedule permits. If at any time your personal circumstances prevent you from carrying out your military training, you may request a release or transfer to the inactive Supplementary Reserve. If you wish to return, the option is yours. It's that simple.

** Please ask your recruiter for detailed information on Reserve pay and benefits.*





What will I do?

Your Reserve career will begin with your Basic Recruit Training course, which typically lasts about two months. The course is designed to give you the basic skills you'll need as a member of the Canadian Forces. During these eight weeks you will learn how to fire the C7 service rifle. You will learn the basics of Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Defence, which will include entering a gas chamber in full protective gear. You will undergo rigorous PT (Physical Training). You will also learn essential military skills such as basic drill, first aid, and map reading, not to mention the skills necessary to survive as a soldier. After Basic Recruit Training, you will find you have become stronger, more confident, and more disciplined than you've ever thought possible. You'll form new friendships and learn the essentials of teamwork - and at the same time discover your own unique capabilities.

Your occupational specialty training course will follow, which lasts anywhere from one to four months. You will travel to the Canadian Forces school that teaches the specialty you have chosen to work in. During these courses you will receive comprehensive classroom and hands-on training in your field. Later in your career, you will be required to complete advanced training courses in order to advance in rank and assume higher levels of responsibility. These courses are also normally conducted during the summer months.

Upon completion of your initial training, you will return home and commence part-time training at your home unit. Each unit typically holds training sessions one night a week, and one full weekend training exercise per month. Opportunities for full-time employment are available throughout the year. The majority of reservists, however, remain at their home unit and train on a part-time basis.

Private Blane Reynolds
Time Served: 1 year
Military Occupation: R612 Structures Technician
Status: Recently completed journeyman carpentry training. Currently studying Civil and Structural Engineering.
"It's an exciting job. I'm learning military construction techniques and I work with specialized military equipment. The Reserve has allowed me to apply my civilian training in a military environment. It's a flexible job, the training is top notch, and there is always plenty of opportunity."

Sub-Lieutenant Annette Chan
Time Served: 12 years
Military Occupation: R86 Naval Control of Shipping Officer
Status: Employed as a Human Resources Administrator in civilian life.
"My service in the Reserve has really added to my professionalism, work ethic and leadership skills. It has also shown me that my capabilities were much greater than I thought. If you're thinking about joining the Reserve, be prepared to challenge yourself. There are no greater opportunities for you to excel."

How do I join?

In order to be eligible to apply for entry into the Reserve, you must:

- be a Canadian citizen (landed immigrants may be considered for certain occupations);
- be 16 years of age or older at the time of your enrolment;
- have a minimum grade 10 education or equivalent;
- pass Canadian Forces medical, physical fitness, and enrolment standards; and
- consent to undergo a reliability and security clearance check.

If you meet these basic requirements, and want to learn more, the first step is to come and talk to us. You may contact either the reserve unit you are interested in directly, or one of the Canadian Forces Recruiting Offices, which are located in Vancouver and Victoria.

Sapper Ryan Koebernick
Time Served: 2 years
Military Occupation: R041 Field Engineer
Status: Currently studying to become a Child and Youth Counsellor.
"I've met some good friends here as well as across the country. I enjoy the camaraderie and the challenge the Reserve has to offer. The Reserve has given me drive and a lot of self-confidence."

What is the Reserve?

We are Canada's part-time military. We consist of men and women who serve with the Canadian Forces, but also have regular civilian jobs or educational studies. Usually, we train at home part-time during the winter, and complete our full-time military qualification courses during the summer. There are more than 300 Reserve units and over 20,000 personnel currently serving across Canada.

We exist to help the Regular Force in meeting Canada's military commitments, including:

Undertaking operations to protect Canadians. These operations include surveillance of Canadian territory, airspace and maritime approaches; assisting other government departments in conducting fisheries patrols and environmental surveillance; countering drug smuggling; conducting search and rescue operations; and responding to disasters, when requested.

Bombadier Shane Hall
Time Served: 10 years
Military Occupation: R021 Field Artillery Soldier
Status: Completed an operational tour in Cyprus with the United Nations. Employed as a Computer Systems Service Representative in civilian life.

"My Reserve unit has become like a second family to me, and I've made many friends for life. It's a part-time job that's second to none. It's given me self-discipline and the motivation to succeed in everything that I do."

Contributing to peacekeeping missions in support of the United Nations. More than 100,000 Canadian Forces personnel have served in almost 50 UN missions in more than 35 countries during the past 40 years. Canada often contributes troops and equipment to multinational forces tasked with stopping conflict and keeping the combatants apart. Over the past few years, the nature of these operations have been expanded to include humanitarian relief, enforcement of cease-fire agreements, and the reconstruction of infrastructure.

Second Lieutenant Harvin Narayan
Time Served: 5 years
Military Occupation: R42 Communications and Electronics Engineering Officer
Status: Employed as an Electronic Systems Design Technologist in civilian life.

"My military training, leadership, discipline, and work ethic, combined with the technical training I received, played a major role in getting me my current job. It also strengthened my self-confidence and assertiveness in everyday life. Most people don't realize that they can gain valuable skills and experience in different fields in the Reserve. There are many opportunities for people to learn something they're interested in."

Providing aid to civilian authorities. When the floodwaters of the Red River in Manitoba began to rise, over 8,400 military personnel from across Canada aided in the fight against the rising waters. Many Reserve soldiers worked day and night on sandbag lines, driving vehicles, providing first aid and establishing vital communications. The Reserve also turned out to help with emergency situations caused by the ice storms that crippled eastern Ontario and Quebec. Reserve soldiers answered the call by supplying technical and heavy equipment, and helping utility workers restore power. And when snow brought most of B.C.'s lower mainland and the Island to a standstill, Reserve soldiers aided in moving hundreds of stranded travellers and transporting snowbound patients in need of medical care.

Leading Seaman Janet Ready
Time Served: 12 years
Military Occupation: R345 Diver
Status: Employed as a Recreation Program Coordinator in civilian life.

"My Reserve career has been incredibly challenging and rewarding. No other job can push you as hard. I have a strong sense of who I am and what I can do. The Reserve continues to challenge me and that's why I continue to serve."